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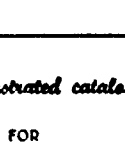
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The Ramasastrula-Munagala Prize, 1940.

1. The prize will be awarded in July 1940.
2. The prize will be in the form of a Medal and will be awarded to the member of the Union who submits the best account of original research or enquiry, carried out by him on any agricultural subject.
3. The subject matter shall not exceed in length twelve foolscap pages, type-written on one side.
4. Intending competitors should notify the Secretary of the Madras Agricultural Students' Union not later than the 1st June 1940 with a covering letter showing full name and address of the sender. The author's name should not be shown on the paper, but should be entered under a *nom-de-plume*.
5. Four type-written copies of the essay should be sent.
6. The name of the successful competitor will be announced and the prize awarded at the time of the Conference.
7. Papers submitted will become the property of the Union and the Union reserves to itself the right of publishing all or any of the papers.
8. All reference in the paper to published books, reports or papers by other workers must be acknowledged.
9. Any further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, Madras Agricultural Students' Union, Lawley Road, P. O., Coimbatore.

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Secretary.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Twenty-Ninth College day and Conference.

It is proposed to hold the 29th College Day Conference, under the auspices of the Madras Agricultural Students' Union, during the middle of July 1940.

Persons who intend reading papers at the Conference are requested to communicate to the Secretary, Madras Agricultural Students' Union.

Members desirous of moving propositions at the Annual General Body meeting of the Members of the Union are requested to give due notice to the Secretary, so as to reach him not later than 1st June 1940.

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Vol XXVIII.]

MARCH 1940

[No. 3.]

EDITORIAL

The War and Fertilizers in India. In the January number of the 'Indian Farming', Mr. David Hendry discusses the effect of War on the use of fertilizers in India. The problem was not present during the last war, owing to the very limited use of artificial fertilizers by the Indian cultivator. But in recent years, on account of the lowering of prices of the inorganic manures rendered possible by the improvements effected in the manufacturing processes, the use of artificial manures, especially nitrogenous manures has increased to an enormous extent and more than 100,000 tons of sulphate of ammonia are consumed per annum. Of this quantity, only 19,000 tons are produced in this country, and the restriction placed in the export of sulphate of ammonia from the United Kingdom as a consequence of war, has therefore created a problem to the Indian cultivator, especially in Madras which is a 'fertilizer minded' province. The problem has to be solved either (1) by restriction in the use of the fertilizers to the quantity available in India, or (2) by increasing the out-put in this country. It is possible to some extent to restrict the use of artificials and supplement the nitrogen requirements by the application of oil cakes and fuller utilisation of farm yard manure, compost and green manure, in the case of crops like paddy, where the margin of profit to the cultivator is very narrow, but in the case of valuable money crops, like tea, sugarcane and potatoes, however, there is no doubt that crop production will be adversely affected if sufficient quantities of inorganic nitrogenous and phosphatic manures are not available at a reasonable cost. It is therefore necessary, that efforts should be made to increase our output to meet our demands, and we are glad to learn in this connection that the manufacture of sulphate of ammonia on a large scale has been taken up in Mysore and Mettur. The utilisation of the crude mineral phosphate available in certain parts of South India for the manufacture of super-phosphates, will, also we hope, receive the attention, it deserves from those interested in the development of the manure industry in this province.

Hostel Tatler. We have great pleasure in presenting to our readers, along with this number the students' supplement of the Madras Agricultural Journal. The students of the college have been for some years conducting a manuscript journal of their own, under the title 'The Hostel Tatler', and it was felt that the contributions in that Journal may provide, amusement to others besides the present students of the college—especially the old boys of the college in the mofussil. The publication of the supplement, has been rendered possible by the generous offer of the students to defray part of the cost of production and we have no doubt that their enthusiasm will be rewarded by the grateful appreciation of the readers of the Madras Agricultural Journal. The supplement reveals the existence of a considerable amount of artistic skill, originality and literary talent in our students, which deserve encouragement.

Our heartiest good wishes to the success of the 'Hostel Tatler.'

Orchard Efficiency Analysis in Mangoes (*Mangifera Indica* Linn.) and Oranges (*C. Sinensis* Osbeck)

BY K. C. NAIK, B. Ag. (Bom.). M. Sc. (Bristol).

Superintendent, Fruit Research Station, Kodur.

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Introduction. The Presidency of Madras is reputed to be one of the leading producing centres of mangoes and sweet oranges. According to the latest figures (2) the province claims an area of 244,945 acres under mangoes with a marketable production of 20,000,000 railway maunds of fresh fruits, of which 400,000 railway maunds are exported annually to other parts of India. Although the sweet oranges comprising mainly of two commercial varieties viz., the Sathgudi and Batavian account together at present for a production of 195,000 railway maunds, about 65% of the orchards under these two varieties are yet young and have not reached the bearing stage.

An outstanding feature of the mango production in this part of India is that, it is not the result of a few standard commercial varieties but of a vast number of distinct horticultural entities, many of which constitute nothing more than mere local curiosities. In the Ceded districts, although a very large number of varieties are under cultivation, those that are extensively grown, are Neelum, Bangalora, Mulgoa, Andrews, Baneshan, Khader and Peter. It is gradually being recognised that efficiency of production and marketing requires that the orchards should be stocked with a limited number of economically profitable varieties instead of the prevailing multiplicity of varying forms and types of good or indifferent value. Information on the commercial value of each of the various varieties is, therefore, being increasingly sought for, especially for the raising of new plantations.

In the case of sweet orange plantations, however, seed propagation has been the rule in South India till very recently. It is in the very nature of seed propagation, that the plants raised become extremely variable, so much so that it is found impossible to obtain a standardised crop from any single plantation. The promiscuous crossing that takes place in nature between conjugally compatible varieties and species of citrus, have led to the origin of numerous and varied types and forms, so that the efficiency of orange production is found to be fast undergoing a process of quality deterioration. However, the polyembryonic nature of sweet orange (6) and the consequent origin of large number of apogamic seedlings identical to the seed parent has possibly served as a check in this down-ward march of the South Indian orange industry.

Hodgson (3) has pointed out that the factors governing successful production of fruits of any of the varieties depend primarily upon the environment, cultural practices and inherent character of the trees. In a crop like mango, which hardly receives any cultural attention in the Ceded districts after the trees attain the bearing stage, and which does not seem to afford much scope for improvement of cultural practices at the present stage of low

orchard returns, the possible improvements that can be effected appear to lie primarily in the direction of stocking the orchards with inherently highly productive and choice fruiting trees of economically profitable varieties. Such a step will also be obviously necessary in the case of sweet orange plantations, especially in view of the very wide variation in orchard returns from plantations located under apparently identical conditions.

As a means of visualising the relationship between orchard productivity and inherent bearing capacity of the trees and varieties, separate investigations dealing with mangoes and sweet oranges were initiated at the Fruit Research Station, Kodur, during 1936 and 1937, respectively. The results presented in this paper relate to the data collected for these investigations during the period of four years in the case of mangoes and three years in the case of sweet oranges.

Materials and Methods. A private mango grove at Kodur covering an area of about 50 acres and containing 1632 bearing trees of 25 different varieties was selected for one of these investigations. For the study with sweet oranges, two separate sathgudi (syn. chinee orange) orchards, close to the Fruit Research Station, Kodur and located at a distance of about 440 yards from each other, and consisting of 212 and 102 seedling trees respectively of uniform age and in full bearing condition were selected. The former orchard has been designated as No. 1 and the latter as No. 2 in this paper.

The performance records of individual trees in these three plantations were estimated according to the lines suggested by Hodgson (3). Briefly, for the purpose of recording data and analysis of the results the system adopted consisted of the arbitrary fixing of four classes of trees according to relative production, taking the normal full crop for the year as the standard. The numerals 1, 2, 3, and 4 were used to designate heavy, medium, poor and no crop-production respectively. In the case of mangoes estimates of flower production in the case of each tree were also made and recorded similarly.

Since a number of trees in the mango plantation consisted of weak or diseased individuals, it was felt necessary to include for the purpose of analysis only such trees as were of apparently uniform vigour and growing as close together as possible in compact areas. In all, 434 Neelum trees in 5 separate plots, 630 Bangalora trees also in 5 different plots, 41 trees of Andrews variety in one plot and 38 Mulgoa trees in yet another plot were finally selected for the purpose of analysis. The specimen records from a Bangalora Block plot are given in Fig. 1. Such a necessity for selective analysis was not felt in sweet orange plantations, as almost all the trees were very uniform in vigour and health.

In presenting the data in this paper, the performance of the first and the last class of trees have only been taken into account. This restriction is expected to reduce the error in estimation of performance due to personal factor, to the narrowest limits possible.

Performance Record Chart of Bangalora Block-Y-C. R. Garden, Kodur 1936-39.

INDEX

Figure 1.

1. Heavy flowering or fruiting. 2. Medium. 3. Poor. 4. Very poor no flowering or fruiting.

Note. 1. The left hand figures in each square indicates estimated flower records, while the figures on the right stand for estimated fruit yield records for the same tree in that square for the year.

The sathgudi orange is, however, known to bear two main crops regularly in a year in this tract. This feature has rendered necessary to estimate the performance of trees selected for these studies at two different periods of the year, and analyse these data separately for each crop.

Data and Discussion of Results.

1. **Mango performance records.** In statement No. 1 are given the percentages of poor and heavy flowering trees in each of the four varieties under study during 1936-39.

It is seen from the above figures that on the basis of flowering, the percentage of profitable trees has not exceeded in any year 11.7 in Neelum, 49.0 in Bangalora, 14.6 in Andrews and 42.1 in Mulgoa. On the other hand, the percentage of poor flowering trees has been as high as 74.8 in Neelum, 80.2 in Bangalora, 90.3 in Andrews and 93.7 in Mulgoa.

Statement 1. Showing the percentages of poor and heavy flowering trees of 4 varieties of graft mangoes at Kodur. 1936-1939.
 { Neelum = 434, Bangalora = 630,
 Total number of trees : { Andrews = 41, Mulgoa = 38.

Particulars.	1936				1937				1938				1939			
	Neelum.	Bangalora.	Andrews.	Mulgoa.	Neelum.	Bangalora.	Andrews.	Mulgoa.	Neelum.	Bangalora.	Andrews.	Mulgoa.	Neelum.	Bangalora.	Andrews.	Mulgoa.
Percentage of poor-bearing trees	60.6	74.3	90.2	79.0	58.3	43.2	78.8	52.7	70.6	80.2	90.3	93.7	74.8	35.0	66.4	39.5
Percentage of heavy-bearing trees	9.9	8.6	4.9	2.6	15.2	27.8	14.6	10.5	11.7	12.5	2.4	nil	6.4	49.0	9.7	42.1

Statement 2. Showing percentages of low, and heavy fruiting trees of Neelum, Bangalora, Andrews and Mulgoa trees during 1936-39.
 { Neelum = 434, Bangalora = 630,
 Total number of trees : { Andrews = 41, Mulgoa = 38.

Particulars.	1936				1937				1938				1939			
	Neelum.	Bangalora.	Andrews.	Mulgoa.	Neelum.	Bangalora.	Andrews.	Mulgoa.	Neelum.	Bangalora.	Andrews.	Mulgoa.	Neelum.	Bangalora.	Andrews.	Mulgoa.
Percentage of poor-bearing trees	63.8	75.7	90.3	87.0	76.7	62.0	90.8	100.0	84.0	92.4	9.5	100.0	32.00	78.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage of heavy-bearing trees	9.0	7.9	2.4	2.6	3.1	9.0	nil	nil	7.1	5.0	2.4	nil	3.2	2.0	nil	nil

When the data relating to the estimated yield of fruits are similarly analysed, the low percentage of heavy bearing trees in the plantation is brought out more prominently, as is evident from statement No. 2.

The above figures show that the maximum percentage of heavy-yielding trees during the four-year period has been only 9.0 in Neelum and Bangalora, 2.4 in Andrews and 2.6 in Mulgoa, whereas the maximum percentage of poor-yielding trees has been 84.0 in Neelum, 92.4 in Bangalora and 100.0 in Andrews and Mulgoa. An amazingly high percentage of unprofitable trees seems, therefore, a common feature in these four varieties of commercial importance in this tract.

The above data does not, however, represent an accurate picture of the relative economic importance of any of the four varieties, nor does it indicate the manner in which the varieties react to the popularly believed phenomenon of biennial or periodic bearing in mangoes. For this purpose the data have been analysed separately with a view to trace the performance of each individual tree of all the four varieties during the four-year period. This has furnished an idea of the proportion of trees in each variety that bear an uniform crop of flowers or fruits in two, three or four years during the four-year period. The summarised data are presented in Statement Nos. 3 and 4.

Statement No. 3. Showing the percentages of consistently heavy and poor flowering trees in a two-year, three-year and four-year periods.

Total number of trees :— { Neelum = 434 Bangalora = 630
 { Andrews = 41 Mulgoa = 38

Period	Consistently heavy-flowering				Consistently poor-flowering			
	Neelum	Bangalora	Andrews	Mulgoa	Neelum	Bangalora	Andrews	Mulgoa
Any 2-year period	6.9	25.4	4.9	5.3	89.2	65.9	95.1	89.5
Any 3-year period	0.2	2.1	2.4	nil	53.9	48.2	85.4	60.5
Any 4-year period	nil	0.1	nil	nil	19.6	13.9	41.4	13.2

Statement No. 4. Showing the percentages of consistently heavy and poor fruiting trees in two-year, three-year and four-year periods.

Total number of trees : { Neelum = 434. Bangalora = 630.
 { Andrews = 41. Mulgoa = 38.

Period.	Consistently heavy-fruited.				Consistently poor-fruited.			
	Neelum.	Bangalora.	Andrews.	Mulgoa.	Neelum.	Bangalora.	Andrews.	Mulgoa.
Any 2-year period.	3.9	3.0	2.4	nil	94.5	98.7	100.0	100.0
Any 3-year period.	0.5	nil	nil	nil	74.2	80.0	95.1	100.0
Any 4-year period.	nil	nil	nil	nil	35.5	39.5	83.0	84.2

The following inferences are warranted from the above figures:—

- (i) There is not a single tree in any of the four varieties that has produced consistently heavy or medium crop of flowers consecutively in the four-year's period under study, with the solitary exception of a Bangalora tree that has consistently borne heavy crop of flowers throughout the four year period.
- (ii) On the other hand, the percentage of consistently poor-flowering or fruiting trees during the four-year period has been as high as 41.4 and 83.0 respectively in Andrews, 13.2 and 84.2 respectively in Mulgoa, 13.9 and 39.5 in Bangalora and 19.6 and 35.5 in Neelum. The existence of such a high percentage of consistently non-productive trees is a serious draw-back in the orchard under study.
- (iii) The inferences drawn above for the four-year period apply almost in a similar degree to the three-year period also except that in the case of fruiting in Mulgoa and Andrews, the percentages of trees that bore poor crop of fruits consistently during three out of four years have been as high as 100.0 and 95.1 respectively. This surprising fact points out the utter futility of raising commercial orchards of these two varieties in this tract.
- (iv) The percentage of consistently heavy-flowering trees in any two out of the four years has been the largest in Bangalora, but this advantage has not been maintained till the fruit ripening period. In fact, the percentage of consistently heavy-fruiting trees in any two years out of the four-year period has been only 3.9 in Neelum, 3.0 in Bangalora 2.4 in Andrews and nil in Mulgoa, while the percentage of consistently poor-fruiting trees in any two years has been as high as 94.5 in Neelum 98.7 in Bangalora and 100.0 in Mulgoa and Andrews.

The above facts clearly indicate that, one of the most important lines of improvement that requires to be effected in the mango industry in this tract is to increase the proportion of consistently productive individuals. Whether this can be brought about by propagation of plants from selected parents of inherently heavy-yielding capacities or by hybridization are questions that merit serious consideration in preference to the improvements that can possibly be effected through orchard cultural practices

That Mulgoa and Andrews are not commercially profitable varieties in this tract has been clearly brought out from these studies. In a separate series of investigations not reported herein, it has been found that Neelum and Bangalora possess the longest marketing season and Mulgoa has a very low percentage of perfect flowers in the panicle, which results in its shy-bearing habit. A study of the prices realised by some of the important varieties during a period of six years (1931–1936) has also revealed that, as against an average of Rs. 6 per basket received for Mulgoa and Andrews during the height of the season, Neelum commands a price of as much as Rs. 10 per basket towards the close of the season, when fruits of the above varieties are scarce, even though during the mid-season the price may range from Rs. 1–8–0 to Rs. 3 per basket. The relatively higher and regular bearing tendency of Neelum, its longer marketing season, its ability to command fancy prices at the fag end of the season and also its frequent production of a fair-sized off-season crop of high marketing value marks out

this variety as the most suitable for commercial planting in this tract, even though its quality is inferior to that of Mulgoa and Andrews. Between Bangalora and Neelum, the latter commends itself more to the growers, because of its better fruit quality and its frequent habit of production of off-season crops.

With a view to gather some information about the possible effect of a heavy or poor crop in one season on the yield in the following seasons, the estimated yield records were further analysed separately for each variety. These revealed that, in the case of Neelum, for every 100 trees that bore heavy crops of fruits in 1936, only eight trees bore heavy yields in 1937, ten trees in 1938 and 13 trees in 1939. This shows that the possible exhaustion effect caused during 1936, had not been made up during the following three years. It further shows that, the popular conception of an off-year following alternately an on-year is not substantiated. Similarly, when the performance of the poor-bearing Neelum trees are traced, it is found that, of the 100 such trees in 1936, 78 in 1937, 87 in 1938 and 81 in 1939 continued to bear poor crops. In the same manner, out of 100 trees that bore heavy crops in 1936 in Bangalora, only ten in 1937 and 1938 and six in 1939 bore heavy crops, while of the 100 trees that bore poor crops in this variety in 1936, 62 in 1937, 94 in 1938 and 88 in 1939 continued to bear poor yields. All these facts seem to conclusively support the previously recorded inference that, in a given tree an on-year does not necessarily follow an off-year. In other words, the bearing in mangoes seems to be governed not entirely by the performance of the trees in the previous year nor by the supposedly existing phenomenon of biennial bearing, but mainly by the inherent character of the individual tree, including possibly parts thereof, and also by other environmental factors including the incidence of pests and diseases and cultural practices.

Orange performance records. It has been stated previously that sathgudi orange bears two main crops in a year in Ceded districts, but it often happens that irregular blooming periods also get intercalated between these two main periods, resulting in the availability of fruits practically throughout the year. The blooming period for the winter crop, which forms the largest bulk of the produce varies slightly from season to season, having occurred during the last three weeks of February in 1937 and 1938 and last week of January in 1939. The harvest of this chief crop of the year was done during December-January in 1936–37, November-March in 1937–38 and November-January in 1938–39. For the second crop, flowering has occurred from last week of September to the beginning of December, and harvest was done from June to August during the period under study. Prevailing prices in the market offer an inducement to the growers to pick immature fruits, while in some years premature harvest is necessitated by the attack of fruit moth, *Ophideres*. These factors are also expected to affect the tree yield not only during the season but also in the immediately succeeding one.

Unlike in the case of studies in mango orchards, it has been possible to take an actual count of the fruits borne on each individual tree in the two sathgudi plantations. Besides furnishing a more accurate standard for the grouping of the trees into heavy and low bearers, the above method has also shown an indication of the relation between the tree yields in the two bearing seasons. In the following statements are presented the information gathered from these two orchards during the first two years viz., 1936-37 and 1937-38 as also a summary of the compiled information collected during the entire 3-year period.

Statement No. 5. Summary of information gathered from Orange Orchard analysis.

Particulars	Garden No. 1		Garden No. 2	
	1936-37	1937-38	1936-37	1937-38
1. Percentage of non-bearing trees and trees bearing less than 50 fruits each.	23.6	7.2	52.9	25.2
2. Average number of fruits per tree for the year.	135.8	557.43	66.10	300.7
3. Average number of fruits per bearing tree in 1st season.	156.3	529.0	90.9	297.0
4. Average number of fruits per bearing tree in 2nd season.	28.5	20.8	35.7	6.5
5. Average number of fruits per bearing tree for the whole year.	154.8	565.63	84.4	329.8
6. Maximum yield per tree in 1st season.	935	1400	320	1900
7. Maximum yield per tree in 2nd season.	150	95	200	40

Statement No. 6. Showing the orchard efficiency analysis during 1936-39.

Season of bearing	Garden No. 1		Garden No. 2	
	Heavy bearers %	Low or No bearers %	Heavy bearers %	Low or No bearers %
1st season	17.48	12.62	19.80	30.21
2nd season	16.50	59.71	37.50	39.50

The above data make it clear that, from the point of view of gross crop yield, garden No. 1 has proved to be a distinctly more valuable asset than garden No. 2. This difference is primarily due to the existence of a larger percentage of non-bearing or low-producing trees in the first season and also due to a relatively lower tree yield in that season in the latter garden than in the former. Although garden No. 2 has shown during the 3 year period to possess a higher proportion of high yielding individuals, especially

of the class that bears the second season crop, this advantage has been offset by the other unfavourable features mentioned above.

While the size of crop per tree or garden or season is clearly subject to considerable variation the ratio between the yields of the two seasons continues to be very wide, so that the second crop forms but a very small part of the gross yield in the year. This, however, does not detract the economic value of the second crop, which usually sells at a rate thrice or four times of that realised for the fruits of the first crop.

It seems clear from the orchard efficiency data for the three-year period that, unlike in mangoes the consistently poor or low-yielding trees in sathgudi orange plantation form a small proportion, not exceeding 30.21% in the first season and 59.71% in the second season. Garden No. 1, which is reputed to be one of the most profitable in this tract possesses only 12.62% of the trees that are consistently unprofitable on the basis of the yield records of the first season. The analysed figures of cropping furnished for three typical sweet orange plantations by Hodgson (3) have shown that the percentage of unprofitable trees range from 13 to 32, while in the average orchard the percentage may be over 50. Judged by this standard, it seems that the best seedling orange groves of the Ceded districts can favourably compare with the best budded orange plantations in California. On the other hand, the percentage of profitable or heavy-yielding trees in California has been found by Hodgson to vary from 26 to 68, while in Philippines, the percentage of such trees has been found to range between 2.94 to 51.28 in the four Batangas mandarin groves (4). Notwithstanding the possible differences in the grouping of trees according to yields as adopted in California and Philippines, an inference that seems valid is that, there is scope in this tract for increasing the orchard yields by increasing the number of inherently high yielding trees.

Webber (5) and Batchelor and his co-workers (1) have shown that the variations in orange tree yield is likely to be considerably influenced by the variations inherent in the buds due to heritage. Even if it be true that, orchard environment may be more potent than genetic factors in influencing productivity (4), the value of selecting only such trees as have been raised from high-yielding individuals seems well established for ensuring maximum productivity. Since seed propagation in citrus, despite its polyembryonic character cannot be depended upon to produce every progeny true to the parents, such selection of budlings from high-yielding parents is only possible through vegetative propagation, especially through budding, which is the most economic of the latter methods.

Vegetative propagation is known to be specially valuable in mangoes, because of the mono-embryonic character of most of the Indian varieties. The continued and extensive recourse to this method through ages has however, not increased the proportion of inherently productive individual trees, possibly because of the lack of any selective process in the parent

material. Because of the alleged phenomenon of 'periodicity of bearing' in mangoes, it may also be impracticable to secure as high a proportion of consistently productive parent trees in a mango grove as in citrus.

Nevertheless, from the economic view-point of the grower, the most important measure that requires to be devised appears to be that, which has as its objective a definite increase in the orchard efficiency. Rigorous selection of parent material, control of the so-called phenomenon of 'periodicity of bearing', or employing suitable rootstocks are some of the possible methods that can be adopted towards the realisation of these objectives. On the other hand, in the case of sathgudi orange, while the value of selection of parents cannot be denied, the greater importance of cultural propagation and rootstock investigations appears to be indicated to enhance the orchard receipts through better fruit quality, disease resistance and an increased productivity in the medium or low-cropping individuals.

It also appears that the simple method of orchard analysis adopted in these investigations will be most useful in evaluating the intrinsic orchard value. It would thus furnish a more efficient means to the purchaser of a bearing orchard of determining the orchard value than any of the prevailing methods.

Summary. 1. An amazingly high percentage of unprofitable trees has been found to form a common feature in Neelum, Bangalore, Andrews and Mulgoa varieties of mango in the Ceded districts.

2. Out of 1143 trees of four varieties under study, there is only a single tree of Bangalore variety, which has consistently borne heavy crop of flowers during the four-year period. Not a single tree in any of the four varieties has produced heavy or medium crop of fruits consistently during this period.

3. Since over 95 % of the trees of Mulgoa and Andrew have borne consistently poor or no crop during the 3 out of our years under study, and since the percentage of heavy fruiting trees in any one year has not exceeded 2'6, it appears futile to include these varieties in commercial plantations.

4. Neelum has proved to be the most economically profitable variety in this region.

5. The popular conception that an off-year is invariably followed by an on-year or vice versa is not substantiated.

6. The orange garden No. 1 has proved to be a distinctly more valuable set than No. 2.

7. While the possibility of increasing the number of heavy-yielding trees by vegetative propagation and selection of parent material is indicated, increasing of yields of medium and low croppers are found to be of greater importance in oranges, unlike in mango orchards.

8. The simple method of orchard analysis adopted in these investigations is likely to offer an efficient means to the purchaser of a bearing plantation of determining the intrinsic value of the trees grown therein.

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A Reply to Critics

BY M. KANTI RAJ, M. A., B. Sc. (Edin.)

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The activities of the Agricultural Department, are often subject to criticism, in the press, on the platform, and also in the legislative chambers. The object of this note is to meet those criticisms by explaining the handicaps which the Departmental staff have to face in the course of execution of their duties. Before proceeding to examine the most common criticisms levelled against the Department, it seems desirable to place before the reader an idea of the number of officers employed and their jurisdiction, to enable him to realise the nature of such handicaps and judge for himself whether the criticisms are justified or not.

The Department, as at present constituted, has two main functions to perform viz., *Research* and *Propaganda*. The activities of the research side are confined to the Agricultural Research Institute located at Coimbatore and also at different farms situated all over the presidency. For the purpose of propaganda, the presidency is divided into four circles and in each circle a technically trained officer styled as Agricultural Demonstrator is placed in charge of one taluk.

It may be safely assumed, that in this Presidency, each taluk on an average comprises about 150 villages and as already pointed out, all these villages will be in charge of one Demonstrator who will be assisted by two skilled coolies. It is impossible for a single individual to cover this wide area, extending on a modest estimate over 300 square miles and tackle all the ryots who will easily number a few thousands. The criticisms one often hears or reads of, are (a) the Agricultural Demonstrator is not to be seen, (b) the existence of the Agricultural Department is not known to the ryots, (c) the Agricultural Department has done next to nothing, (d) the recommendations of the Agricultural Department are too costly for an average ryot to adopt and (e) the money spent on the Agricultural Department is not commensurate with the benefits derived by the ryots.

(a) *The Agricultural Demonstrator is not to be seen.* Prior to 1931, the method of propaganda in vogue was, the Demonstrator was allowed to tackle as many ryots as possible all over the taluk. The result was the jurisdiction being so wide, the ryots could not be frequently met and consequently there was no continuity in the work started in any one place. In order to rectify these defects and with a view to concentrate the work which is essential for the introduction of improvements, the policy was changed.

In accordance with the present policy, each Demonstrator is expected to select eight villages, on the basis of one village for each *firka* in the taluk, and concentrate work not only in those villages styled as "central villages" but also in the surrounding villages situated within a radius of

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about five miles. The number of villages now tackled will be about 50 for each taluk. The work is concentrated in those eight groups of villages for a period of three to five years and then a fresh batch of villages are tackled. In addition to the work carried on in those fifty villages, if any calls are received from other villages in the taluk, the Demonstrator is expected to attend to them.

On the basis of the present policy it will take about 15 to 25 years to tackle all the villages in each taluk. It has often been the experience of workers in rural reconstruction schemes that when once the "guiding hand" is removed, things revert to the old order and therefore it is essential that there is continuity in work. The critics will do well to recognise these facts and strive to increase the strength of staff for each taluk, so that not only all the villages can be tackled at the same time, but also there can be continuity in the work which is once started.

(b) *The existence of the Agricultural Department is not known to the ryots.* People who generally make this criticism have the Revenue Department in the background as a standard for comparison. It is a fallacy to compare the Agricultural Department with the Revenue Department which has a staff in each and every village in the taluk. It is not possible for a single officer to make his presence felt all over the taluk as the table below will indicate :—

	Staff of	
	Revenue Department.	Agricultural Department.
Village.	Karnam and Munsiff.	Nil.
Firka.	Revenue Inspector.	Nil.
Taluk.	Tahsildar.	Demonstrator.
Division (Group of two to four taluks.)	Sub-Collector or Deputy Collector	Nil.
District.	Collector.	Nil except Vizagapatam. (There are 13 Assistant Directors for 25 Districts).

Sir John Russell, F. R. S., Director of the Rothamsted Experiment Station, England, who recently toured and examined the various agricultural research schemes in progress, in different parts of India financed by the Government of India, remarked in an article on "Science and the Indian Peasant", contributed to the *Journal of the Royal Society of Arts*.

"What India needs now, is not so much new scientific knowledge about general agriculture, but fuller use of existing knowledge and the working out of methods to reduce the present wide gap between the ordinary cultivator and the experimental farm".

This gap can be bridged only by increasing the staff employed on propaganda side. If this is accomplished, the critics will have earned the gratitude of thousands of ryots who are now outside the fold of the activities of the Department.

(c) *The Agricultural Department has done next to nothing.* One has to study the work done by the Department only on two major crops viz., Paddy and Sugarcane—the two important representatives of the 'subsistence' and 'money' crops, to realise the uncharitable nature of this criticism. The Department has nearly sixty strains of Paddy suitable for cultivation under different conditions. These strains are never distributed unless their yield is at least, ten per cent over that of the local variety which they are intended to replace. In addition, some of the strains fetch better price in the market than local variety due to purity of stuff, fineness of grain and other qualities. It is found impossible to arrive at, even to an approximate extent, the spread of Departmental strains in the Presidency. The demand for the seed is so great that the Departmental farms are not able to meet them and consequently the supply has to be arranged from ryots who grew them in the previous season.

In the case of sugarcane the achievement of the Department is much more spectacular. Almost the entire area in the Presidency is under varieties introduced by the Department from time to time. Many more such examples can be cited.

(d) *The recommendations of the Agricultural Department are too costly for an average ryot, to adopt.*

The economic side of any improvement advocated by the Department has always received the first consideration before introduction. The improvements advocated may be broadly classified under three groups viz., (i) Cultural—to reduce the labour bill, (ii) manurial—to increase the net profit (iii) varietal—to increase yield. There is a large demand for seeds of strains, evolved by the Department especially in the case of paddy, cotton and groundnut which the Department is finding difficult to meet.

The Loans issued by the Department for the purchase of implements has increased from Rs. 130 in 1931—32 to Rs. 18,188 in 1938—39. Several examples of other improvements advocated, which have been easily adopted by ryots can be cited to prove that they are not costly.

(e) *The money spent on the Agricultural Department is not commensurate with the benefits derived by the ryots.*

In this Presidency, the area under Paddy and Sugarcane according to the season and crop Report for 1937—38 was 10,140,831 and 97,965 acres respectively. Assuming for argument's sake that the departmental paddy strains have spread only over 5 per cent of the total area (i. e., 507,041 acres) and the value of the increased yield obtained is only about Rs. 5 per acre, annual gain to ryots by growing the improved paddy strains alone will roughly be about Rs. 25,35,205.

Similarly in the case of sugarcane, a crop practically the entire area of which is under departmental varieties, the annual gain to ryots will roughly be about Rs. 48,98,250, assuming that the value of increased yield due to

cultivation of departmental varieties is about Rs. 50 per acre—a very low figure.

The annual budget grant of the Agricultural Department is Rs. 21,065,00—much less than a modestly estimated profit from either paddy or sugarcane and that in a single item of improvement advocated in both the crops viz., growing of improved strains evolved, or introduced by the Department. Figures speak for themselves, hence no further comment is necessary.

5. It is sincerely hoped that critics of the Department will bear these facts in mind and endeavour to 'bridge the gap' as advised by Sir John Russell by enabling the Government to increase the staff on the propaganda side, which seems to be the only way to improve the lot of the peasant.

Molasses as Food.

Experiments concluded at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology show that old-fashioned molasses is about the best food known for treating nutritional anaemia, the kind of anaemia due to improper diet. *Science*, Vol. 90, October 27, 1939.

Whereas molasses has 6.1 parts of usable iron per 100,000 parts by weight, spinach has only 0.5, beef liver has 5.6; oatmeal 4.6; apricots, eggs and raisins following in that order. Usable iron was computed, not total content, for only that iron which the body can use to manufacture hemoglobin is valuable. Both chemical and biological tests on rats were used. —*Science*, Vol. 90, October 27, 1939.

The Late Rao Sahib T. V. Rajagopalachariar.

Rao Sahib T. V. Rajagopalachariar whose unexpected death in the early hours of the 8th instant we now mourn was born in the late seventies of the last century at Tirukkarungudi, an important Vaishnavite centre in Nanguneri taluq of the Tinnevely district. This village was always dear to his heart. It was an ancient South Indian village typical of the then existing village organization in many respects.

The late Mr. Acharya came of a very devout Sri Vaishnavite family and had his education in his own village in Palamcottah and at the S. P. G. College, Trichinopoly. With an inborn bent for agriculture, he joined the Madras College of Agriculture at Saidapet and took his Diploma in due course. As was the wont at the time he was drafted into the Revenue Department. He joined the Board of Revenue and when the expansion of the Agricultural Department gave a reorientation to the policy of the Government, he was transferred to that Department. Having served his apprenticeship in the Bombay Experimental farms for a year, he was put in charge of the Koilpatti Cotton Farm where investigations on 'Tinnies' and other allied problems were taken up. Later he was transferred to the charge of the Central Farm, Coimbatore. Subsequently he saw service in the Godavari and Kistna deltas and spent considerable time in the Ceded district, particularly at the Hagari Experimental Station.

During this period he had gained experience in the 'Hadi process' of Gur and sugar making, having been deputed by government to the United Provinces. With such varied knowledge of the conditions of the agricultural industry in Bombay, the United Provinces and Madras, he was considered eminently fit to be in charge of teaching agriculture at the Coimbatore Agricultural College which had very shortly to be affiliated to the University of Madras. He was gazetted Lecturer in Agriculture in 1920 and put in charge of teaching agriculture for B. Sc. (Ag.) students. In September 1929, he was promoted to be officiating Vice Principal in which capacity also he continued to be in charge of teaching until he retired in June 1932. In recognition of his valuable services to the cause of agriculture, Government conferred on him the title of 'Rao Sahib' in 1931.

During the period of his retirement (alas of less than eight years) he continued his active habits and was connected in various capacities with all the important organisations of the town, Theosophical, Co-operative, Humanitarian Societies like the S. P. C. A., Civic Bodies like the Rate Payers' Association, and Social Clubs. He was one of the first Directors in the now very successful City Milk Supply Union and he was always full of ambitious schemes for ameliorating the condition of his people. On the technical side he was associated with the Senate and Academic Council of the Madras University and, was, of course, a valued examiner in agriculture. By his nature and character he commanded the respect of his colleagues in all these organisations.

He was an ardent theosophist, a willing and zealous co-operator, a critic of music, a discriminating astrologer, a progressivist in social reforms, a cosmopolitan in his outlook on life, a rationalist in religion, a believer in progress, and a thorough going optimist all his life. He was affectionate to a fault, a loving father, and a good friend and guide. All through the day and particularly in the evenings his friends used to gather round him to enjoy his inspiring talks on all matters, religious, social and economic.

(T. S. V.)

College News & Notes.

Personal:—Sri. C. N. Babu, B.Sc., who was for sometime a research student in the oil seed section and was till recently an Assistant in the Imperial Sugarcane Breeding Station, Coimbatore, has been conferred the degree of M. Sc. by the University of Madras for his thesis on "Cytological studies on Cymbopogon".

We offer our hearty felicitations to Sri. C. N. Babu.

Foot and Mouth Disease. Consequent upon the recurrence of "Foot and mouth disease" in the vicinity of the Agricultural College Estate, the precautionary and control measures, temporarily withheld by the Central Farm authorities, have been again revived. The Central Farm animals are yet free from this disease.

Visitors. Mr. G. B. Patel, Cotton Botanist, Sind was on a visit to the Agricultural College and Research Institute during the last week of February. He addressed the Association of Economic Biologists on "Breeding of the Cotton in Guzerat".

Season and Water Scarcity. Very dry and hot weather is being experienced at Coimbatore at present. The absence of rains for the last 5 months has seriously affected the supply of water in almost all the wells in the District and the Coimbatore Municipality have taken advance precautionary measures by regulating supply of water, to guard against serious shortage in summer.

Mofussil News and Notes.

Karkala:—Cattle Fair at Sitanadi in Karkala Taluk of South Kanara District. For the benefit of the cultivators of Karkala, Udipi and Coondapoor taluks in the South Kanara district of the Madras Province, a cattle fair is being conducted at Sitanadi by the Cattle Fair Committee of Hebri under the auspices of the South Kanara District Board. The first fair was held in the year 1937. This fair lasts for about ten days just a week after the cattle fair at Kulkunda near Subramannya in Puttur taluk about 90 miles away, which is held about the third week of November every year. The Sitanadi cattle fair is held in the village of Hebri almost at the foot of the Agumbe ghat and provides good camping ground for cattle as well as sufficient pasturage and drinking water. Cattle of all classes are brought down from the Mysore State for sale. The following is the number of cattle that assembled at Sitanadi in December 1939.

Particulars of cattle.	Number.	Average cost.
He-buffaloes.	426	Rs. 75 per pair.
She-buffaloes.	147	Rs. 70 each.
Bulls.	20	Rs. 40 each.
Working bullocks.	790	Rs. 200 per pair. (Best animals).
		Rs. 25 per pair. (Inferior animals).
Cows.	7	Rs. 24 each (best animals).
		Rs. 15 each (Inferior animals)
Young stock.	24	
Total.	1414	

As this fair was started only recently, it has not yet attracted many cattle breeders. To attract the cattle breeders from all parts and also to induce the local people to pay better attention to the rearing of their own animals, prizes in the shape of gold and silver medals are being awarded for different items and the number of prizes awarded this year comes to 25.

During the cattle fair week, an Agricultural Exhibition was held in the cattle fair grounds when all the improved methods of agriculture were demonstrated and lectures on agricultural topics were delivered with the aid of the magic lantern. Leaflets on various subjects were distributed and samples of improved seeds of paddy, sugarcane, ragi, etc., were on show. The ryots who gathered at the fair evinced great interest in the exhibition and in the propaganda work of the Agricultural Department.

M. U. V.

Ootacamund Flower Show. Ootacamund rightly called the *Queen of hill Stations* has a salubrious climate resembling that of Southern Europe and all the varieties of flowers and fruit growing in that region come up well here. The persistent efforts of the early settlers and the perseverance of the Agricultural Officers have established varied crops from the largely cultivated "Great Scot". Potato to fine types of Japanese plums and the grape-fruit. All varieties of flowers growing in temperate regions from the beautiful Asters to the fragrant verbenas thrive luxuriantly in the tastefully laid out domestic or public gardens.

The annual flower show, an important event of the Ootacamund season comes off usually on the last Saturday in the bright month of May. The show is organised by the Nilgiri Agri-Horticultural Society, a body of enthusiastic residents whose prime hobby is gardening. This society, first established in 1847 as an association for growing vegetables for its subscribers, functioned for a few years only. In 1896 the Nilgiri Agri-Horticultural Society was established by the then Collector. The first Horticultural show was held in October 1869. Under the new society the first show was held in 1897 when Rs. 191 towards prizes were offered for flowers, vegetables and other garden produce. It had been a very successful exhibition. In recent years the prize money offered for the different classes of exhibits amounts to about Rs. 1200. Potted plants, cut flowers, collection of flowers in baskets and vases of cut flowers, bouquets, fruits, vegetables, Dairy produce, Farm and field produce, and livestock are the different classes of exhibits at the show. The prizes offered are restricted to the produce of the Nilgiris District. Outside exhibits are also permitted for enhancing the value of the show.

Fine specimens of flowers of varied hues and selections of different kinds of fruit and vegetables at the show present the art of Nature and what the patient gardener has produced after persistent toil for the aesthetic citizen.

M. T.

Pattukottai. During the inspection of the Pattukottai sub-circle by the Dy. Director of Agriculture, III circle, lectures were delivered by him at Adirampatnam, Amarkari and Thuruvarankurichie to gatherings of ryots. An Agricultural Association was started on 11-2-40 at Thuruvarankurichie when about 100 ryots were present. Sri. S. Rajaratnam Pillai, the president of the Annaikkadu addressed the gathering and Sri. A. Arulanandam Pillai, one of the leading Mirasdars of the place, also spoke to the ryots about the usefulness of the department. Sri G. J. Balaraj, the local Agricultural Demonstrator addressed the ryots about the usefulness of an agricultural association. The Dy. Director of Agriculture addressed the ryots about improved scientific agriculture—Demonstration plots, green manuring, use of iron ploughs etc., and stressed, that as the village contains more of small land-holders, the starting of an agricultural association would do immense good to them. An Agricultural Association was immediately started with a president, Secretary and a committee.

At Adirampatnam, to a gathering of ryots, the Dy. Director addressed on agricultural improvements, and advised them to pay more attention to Agriculture and its side industries.

Tiruppur Cattle Fair. Annually cattle fair and pony show are held at Tiruppur in June during the local car festival. The entire stock of cattle brought to the fair for sale being the famous Kangayam breed, it attracts a large congregation of ryots from all over the district and the neighbouring districts. The show is specially important as the best cattle in the districts are brought for exhibition and sale.

The District Agricultural Association, Coimbatore, arranges a combined agricultural and industrial exhibition during this cattle fair and pony show in alternate years. The exhibitions are staged by the Departments concerned and private ryots and the district agricultural association awards prizes for the best exhibits—agricultural products, cattle, pony etc. On account of this, the shows and exhibitions during such years are very important and attractive.

Tiruppur being close to the famous Kangayam breeding tract, almost all the animals brought to the exhibition are Kangayams which are poor milkers but noted as good work animals. The Pattagar of Palayakottai is a reputed breeder of Kangayams and almost all the prize animals entered for competition are those belonging to him or his direct dependants. In almost all the years, the gold medals for the champion cow and bull are won by him. A very large transaction by way of purchase and sale takes place on this occasion.

As for the agricultural exhibition, the Department usually puts the best show with the largest collection of exhibits both Departmental and otherwise. Private ryots also take part in the exhibition and put up attractive agricultural products. The Departmental exhibits usually consist of:—

(a) Improved agricultural implements and machinery, (b) Seeds, plants and products of different crops as paddy, cholam, ragi, cumbu, inferior millets, groundnut, castor, coconuts, cotton, sugarcane, fruits, vegetables, etc. (c) Malts and malt preparations, chemical charts, prepared cattle feeds, etc. (d) Diseased specimens of crops damaged by insects and fungi with control measures, (e) Side-line of farming-apiculture. (f) Manures and manure seeds—proper collection and preservation of cattle manure by different methods, pit and byre systems, loose box, etc., preparation of composts, green manure seeds etc. Besides, demonstrations also are conducted.

M. S.

Vridhachalam. An Agricultural exhibition was held at Vridhachalam from the 18th to 25th February during the Masi Magam Festival on which occasion about 8,000 people from all parts of the district congregated. Malt making with cholam and ragi grains was demonstrated. Lantern lectures with slides were delivered on 4 nights. Specimens of fodder grasses, live specimens of green manure crops, samples of oil seeds received from Agricultural Research Stations, Palur and Tindivanam were exhibited.

M. A.

Agricultural Jottings.

Grading of mangoes in Chittoor. Chittoor district is one of the biggest mango growing centres in this Presidency and has an area of 29,400 acres under mangoes. Varieties grown are Bangalora (Totapuri), Neelam, Peter, Khader and Malgoa in the order of acreage and these form the commercial varieties figuring largely in the export trade. Other varieties like Ruman, Kalapadi, Dilpasand etc. are also found here and there. The season commences in April and the early varieties like Peter, Khader and Malgoa come into the market till June. They are generally consumed in local markets like Madras, Trichinopoly and Madura.

A few hundred maunds find their way to North Indian markets, but mainly due to competition much of the produce from Chittoor is unable to move to those markets in the early months. Later when this competition ceases, the Chittoor mangoes particularly the 'Bangalora' and later the 'Neelam' are exported from June to August in very large quantities. The total annual production of mangoes in the district is estimated at about two million railway maunds and the export trade to other provinces amounts to 114 000 Railway maunds per year. The chief exporting centres are Chittoor, Damalcheruvu, Kalahasti, Chandragiri and Puttur.

Daily one to three wagon loads are booked from these stations and during heavy seasons train loads move from some of these places. The average exports of mangoes from this district by rail for the past three years were as follows:—

Bombay 69,000 railway maunds, Central Provinces 29,500 railway maunds, Nizam's State 11,000 maunds and other provinces 5,000 maunds, besides about 50,000 railway maunds within the province.

Mangoes for export to Bombay and North India are packed in baskets. But to nearer markets like Madras, Trichinopoly, Madura, Salem and Hyderabad, no packing is done but they are despatched loose in wagons especially the variety Bangalora. This leads to a lot of damage in transit.

There is no regular system of grading the fruits. Big, medium and small are mixed generally. This leads to poorer prices being obtained. In order to demonstrate to the producers and merchants the benefit of selling the produce after proper grading an experimental grading station was opened during the last season at Chittoor. Preliminary work commenced in May, and exports commenced from the second fortnight of June.

Mangoes for export should first satisfy certain general conditions. The fruits must be firm; reasonably uniform in colour, and must have reached a certain stage of maturity. No mango should be entirely green and each should have the shape normal to the variety and should be free from malformation and defects due to disease or insects or mechanical injury.

The mangoes are then sorted according to their weight into three classes, Special, First Grade and Second Grade. Bigger fruits like 'Bangalora' and 'Malgoa' should have minimum weights of 40, 30 and 20 tolas per fruit for the above grades respectively; smaller fruits like 'Peter' and 'Neelam' should have 20, 12 and 8 tolas as minimum weights per fruit.

Each fruit of special grade is carefully wrapped in tissue paper, and then packed in baskets with straw layers. For other grades, individual fruits are not wrapped in tissue paper. Each grade is packed separately. The baskets are labelled with the special labels bearing the "AGMARK" design and are sealed. Each grade has a distinctive coloured AGMARK label. The label for Special is white, for first grade red, and for second grade blue.

Over 3500 baskets weighing about 1500 Railway maunds were despatched to Bombay and sales effected with the assistance of the Provincial Marketing Officer of that Province. Grading of fruits is appreciated by the Bombay merchants and a premium of four to eight annas per Railway maund was obtained for the special quality. The garden owners of Chittoor will therefore be well advised to take up grading of mangoes on a larger scale in the ensuing season. Those desirous of doing so can address the Provincial Marketing Officer, Post Box No. 414, Chempauk, Madras for further particulars and the necessary assistance.

Weather Review—FEBRUARY 1940.

RAINFALL DATA

Division	Station	Actual for month	Departure from normal @	Total since January 1st	Division	Station	Actual for month	Departure from normal @	Total since January 1st
Circars	Gopalpore	0.1	-0.6	0.1	South	Negapatam	0.1	-0.5	0.1
	Calingapatam	0.3	-0.2	0.3		Aduthurai *	0.0	-0.4	0.2
	Vijayapattinam	0.4	-0.5	0.4		Madura	0.0	-0.4	0.0
	Anakapalli *	0.1	-1.2	0.1		Pamban	0.0	-0.7	2.2
	Sumalkota *	0.0	-1.0	0.0		Koilkatti *	0.0	-0.7	0.1
	Maruteru *	0.0	-0.3	0.0		Palamkottah	0.0	-0.7	0.1
	Cocanada	0.0	-0.4	0.0	West Coast	Trivandrum	0.0		0.0
	Masulipatam	0.0	-1.1	0.0		Cochin	0.0	-0.8	0.1
Ceded Dist.	Guntur *	0.0	-1.1	0.0		Calicut	0.0	-0.2	0.1
	Kurnool	0.1	-0.1	0.1		Pattambi *	0.0		0.0
	Nandyal *	0.0	-0.3	0.0		Taliparamba *	0.0	-0.2	0.0
	Hagari *	0.0	-0.3	0.0		Kasargode *	0.0	-0.2	0.0
	Siruguppa *	0.0	-0.3	0.0		Nileshwar *	0.0	-0.2	0.0
	Bellary	0.0	-0.2	0.0		Mangalore	0.0	-0.1	0.0
	Anantapur	0.0	-0.3	0.0	Mysore and Coorg	Chitaldrug	0.0	-0.1	0.0
	Rentachintala	0.0		0.0		Bangalore	0.0	-0.2	0.0
	Cuddapah	0.0	-0.1	0.0		Mysore	0.0	-0.2	0.0
Carnatic	Anantharajupet *	0.0		0.0		Mercara	0.0	-0.2	0.0
	Nellore	0.1		0.2	Hills	Kodaikanal	0.0	-1.4	0.0
	Madras	0.0	-0.3	0.1		Coonoor	0.0	-0.2	0.0
	Palur *	0.0	-0.7	0.0		Ootacamund *	0.0	-0.2	0.0
	Tindivanam *	0.0	-0.9	0.6		Nanjanad *	0.0	-0.6	0.0
	Cuddalore	0.0	-0.9	0.3					
Central	Vellore	0.0	-0.3	0.0					
	Salem	0.0	-0.3	0.0					
	Coimbatore	0.0	-0.3	0.0					
	Coimbatore A. C. & R. I. *	0.0	-0.5	0.0					
	Trichinopoly	0.0	-0.6	0.0					

* Meteorological Stations of the Madras Agricultural Department.

@ From average rainfall for the month calculated upto 1937 published in the Fort St. George Gazette.

The weather has been dry over the country but for the isolated light showers in the Konkan, North Madras Coast, South East Madras and the Madras Deccan. Skies were lightly to moderately clouded in South East Madras, North Madras Coast, Mysore and South Hyderabad, and clear or lightly clouded in the Konkan, and South Bombay Deccan. Humidity was in excess in the Konkan, Bombay Deccan and North Madras Deccan and in defect in South East Madras, Malabar and Mysore. Both maximum and minimum temperatures were above normal in the Konkan and below normal in the Madras Deccan, Mysore and North Madras coast.

Rainfall was practically nil and below normal throughout the presidency.

**Weather Report for Agricultural College and Research Institute, Observatory,
Report No. 2/40.**

Absolute Maximum in shade	...	92.8°F.
Absolute Minimum in shade	...	58.0°F.
Mean maximum in shade	...	89.9°F.
Departure from normal	...	-0.6°F.
Mean Minimum in shade	...	63.8°F.
Departure from normal	...	-2.0°F.
Total rainfall for the month	...	Nil.
Departure from normal	...	-0.50"
Heaviest fall in 24 hours	...	Nil.
Number of rainy days	...	Nil.
Mean daily wind velocity	...	1.86 miles per hour.
Departure from normal	...	-0.88 miles per hour.
Mean Humidity at 8 hours	...	73.1%
Departure from normal	...	+1.2%

Summary. Weather was dry throughout the month. Skies were lightly to moderately clouded and the humidity was in slight excess. Rainfall was nil being 0.5" below normal. Both the mean maximum and mean minimum temperatures were slightly below normal.

P. V. R. & F. L. D.

Departmental Notifications.

Gazette Notifications.

Appointments.

Sri. V. T. Subbayya Mudaliar, Upper Subordinate, Agricultural Section is appointed as officiating Assistant Director of Agriculture. Pattukottai in Category 6, Class I, Madras Agricultural service without prejudice to his leave.

Sri. A. Gopalan Nair, Farm Manager, Central Farm, Coimbatore is appointed to officiate as Assistant Director of Agriculture, Pattukottai during the absence of Sri. V. T. Subbayya Mudaliar on leave or until further orders.

Sri. D. Marudaraja Pillai, Assistant in Mycology, in Category I, Class I, Madras Agricultural Subordinate service is appointed to a post in category 5, Class I, Madras Agricultural service and to act as Government Mycologist. Coimbatore, Vice Sri. K. M. Thomas, granted leave.

Name of officers	From	To
Sri. V. T. Subbayya Mudaliar	Asst. D. A. Pattukottai.	Asst. D. A. Tinnevelly.

Leave.

Name of officers.	Period of leave
Sri. K. M. Thomas, Govt. Mycologist, Coimbatore.	L. A. P. For 3 months from date of relief.
Sri. R. Chockalingam Pillai, Asst. D. A., Tinnevelly.	Leave on half average pay for 6 months from 27-3-40.

Subordinate Services.

Appointments.

The services of Dr. R. Sankaran, Assistant in Cotton, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India for appointment as Cotton Botanist in Sind under the Indian Central Cotton Committee for a period of five years from 1st March 1940.

The following substantive appointments of Upper Subordinates in the Agricultural section are ordered with effect from 15th August 1939.

1. V. Chidambaram Pillai, Upper subordinate, Agricultural section provisionally substantive IV Grade to be substantive in the same grade.
2. P. P. Syed Muhammad Sahib, Upper subordinate, Agricultural section, provisionally substantive in new III grade to be substantive in the same grade.

Promotions.

The following provisionally substantive promotions are ordered with effect from 1st March 1940.

- (1) Sri. S. Dharmalingam Mudaliar, Assistant in Paddy section, Pattambi in II grade old to I Grade (Old).
- (2) Sri. T. S. Ramakrishna Ayyar, Assistant in Mycology section in III Grade (old) to II Grade (old).

Sri. M. Subrahmanyam Pillai, Upper subordinate Agricultural section, IV grade (Old) on Rs. 120-10-170 is promoted to III grade (old) on Rs. 200/- provisionally substantive-with effect from 15th August 1939.

Confirmations.

- (1) Sri. K. Kuppamuthu to be permanent in the Agricultural section from 15-8-39.
- (2) Sri. E. J. Verghese to be permanent Assistant in the Mycology section from 15-8-39.
- (3) Sri. N. G. Narayana to be Assistant in cotton from 15-8-39.
- (4) Sri. C. K. Ramachandran to be permanent in the Agricultural section from 15-8-39.
- (5) Sri. M. L. Balasundaram to be permanent in Agricultural section from 15-8-39.
- (6) Janab P. Abdul Samad Sahib to be permanent in the Agricultural section from 23-12-39.
- (7) Mr. K. C. Thomas to continue to be provisionally substantive in the Agricultural section.
- (8) Sri. B. S. Narasimhamurthi to be Assistant in Cotton provisionally substantive from 15-8-39.
- (9) Sri. K. Satharishi to be Assistant in Chemistry provisionally substantive from 15-8-39.
- (10) Sri. P. Somayajulu to be provisionally substantive in the Agricultural section from 15-8-39.
- (11) Sri. V. Venkatadri Reddi to be provisionally substantive in the Agricultural section from 23-12-39.

Transfers.

Name of officers	From	To
Sri. D. Visvanatha Reddi,	F. M., Central Farm Coimbatore.	F. M., A. R. S., Anakapalli.
„ N. V. Narasinga Sastry,	F. M., A. R. S., Anakapalli	A. D. Kothepeta.
„ R. Ananthapadmanabha Pillai,	A. D., Mudukulathur	F. M., L. R. S., Hosur.
„ R. Subbiah Pillai	A. D., Satur	A. D., Mudukulathur.

Messages.

I welcome the proposal of your Union to bring out in the course of March 1940 a Students' Annual as a supplement to the Madras Agricultural Journal which has been doing distinct service to all those interested in Agriculture. The Annual, if it is properly conceived, is bound to serve as one more link between the Students of the Agricultural College and the officers of the Agricultural Department which would enable the latter to understand the students better and promote their interests. I wish the Annual every success and hope that it will gain strength year after year.

P. H. RAMA REDDI,
Director of Agriculture, Madras.

I have been requested to introduce a new-comer to Literary and Artistic circles—a publication, grave and gay, humorous yet thought-provoking, a production of the student mind and energy, which I hope will receive a favourable reception by readers privileged to peruse its pages. This journal arises as a result of a students' resolution passed at the Madras Agricultural Students' Union General Body Meeting in July last and for the present its publication will be as an annual. Although modelled on the lines of a well-known English publication, its contents will be entirely the work of the Students and it will represent their activities at work and play and this number clearly indicates the versatility of the students in the year of Grace 1940. It has my sincerest good wishes for its success. I hope it shall have many birthdays each more notable and encouraging than its predecessor. With these words I introduce this journal to its readers.

R. C. BROADFOOT,
Principal, Agricultural College.

I have great pleasure in responding to the request of the Secretary, Madras Agricultural Students' Union for a message of good wishes on the occasion of the publication of the Students' Annual as a supplement to the Madras Agricultural Journal. The decision of the Union to publish a Students' Annual has been a happy one as it has afforded an opportunity to the students to display their talents. Let me congratulate the students on their excellent production and wish the Annual every success.

M. C. OMERIAN,
Vice-President, M. A. S. Union.

My hearty greetings to the "Students' Annual", the happy consummation of the earnest endeavours of the students for the past two years.

It gives me added pleasure to send this message, having been connected with the Madras Agricultural Students' Union as Manager and Secretary during this period.

The "Tatler" bud of the Hostel has developed into the 'Annual' fruit of the Union. I am sure that this supplement of the students' activities will serve as a dessert to the 'scientific' menu purveyed in the columns of the Madras Agricultural Journal.

I wish the Students' Annual many happy returns.

P. A. VENKATESWARAN,
Hostel Warden.

I have very great pleasure in responding to your request to send a message of good wishes on the occasion of the Madras Agricultural Students' Union taking yet another step in making it more popular and widening its sphere of appeal, especially to the ex-Students of this College, by publishing a Students' Annual as a supplement to the Madras Agricultural Journal.

The Madras Agricultural Journal is primarily concerned with publishing scientific investigations, carried on mostly by the members of the Department, in simple and popular language so that the results of the scientific work may be clearly grasped and practised by the subscribers to the journal, some of whom may not be so well versed in science as to follow the original articles replete with scientific terms.

Another function which it has been successfully discharging is that of serving as a medium for publishing the activities of the students of the College on a page named "Students' Corner" and thereby serving as a link between the past and present students of the Agricultural College. The space devoted was not commensurate with the numerous and diverse activities, and the management has been considering for some time past ways and means of adequately conveying them to the readers in general and to the ex-students of the College in particular who, I understand, turn, on receipt of the Journal, to the "Students' Corner" first to acquaint themselves with the achievements of the present batch of students, to which they may have themselves contributed while in *Statu pupillari*.

It gives me very great pleasure and satisfaction to learn that the management of the Journal has solved the difficult problem by issuing a Students' Annual as a supplement to the Journal.

I send my hearty congratulations to those who guide the policy of the Journal on this occasion of making a departure, which will not only find favour with the readers but will widely be welcomed by them. To the students also, I convey my felicitations on their successful negotiations to acquire wider publicity to their activities and I earnestly hope that the Annual Supplement will be prepared with considerable care and pains, so that it will be in consonance with the high traditions of the Journal.

H. SHIVA RAU,
Vice-President, Students' Club.

The College Song.

*Members of "Agricoll" Team
Ne'er fail to play the game,
Heavy though the odds may seem
Hold high the noble name.
Always look ahead of you
Ev'n though the goal is far
If to yourself you will be true,
Your success none can bar.*

T. Chellappa.



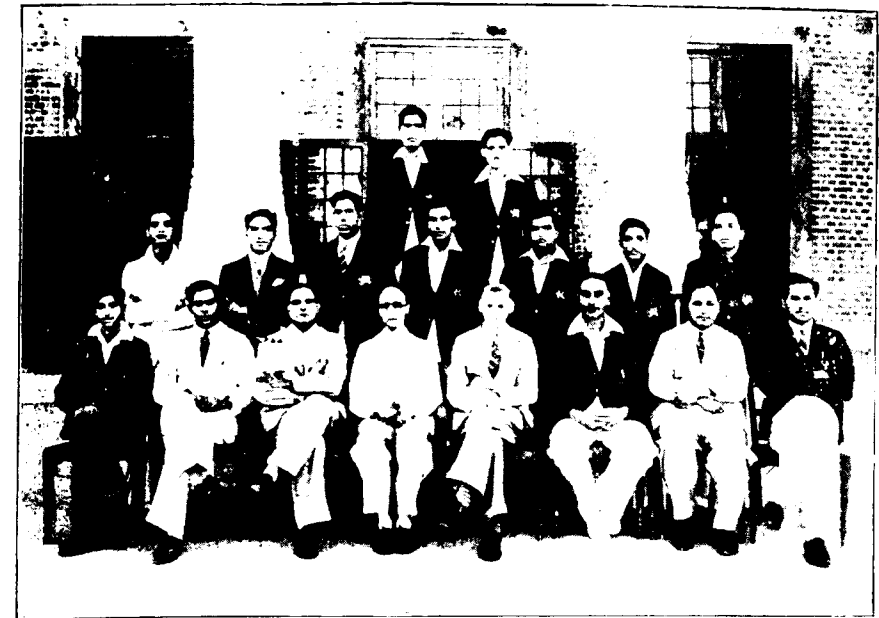
Students of The Agricultural College, 1939 - 40.

The Tatler's Diary 1939—40.

1939

- June 15. The College reopens.
- " 16. The regular grinding has begun with all its implications.
- " 18. Some Late Latifs arrive.
- " 19. The election propaganda seems to have begun.
- " 22. G. Raghavalu thinks it wise not to lengthen the mid-summer holidays. So he arrives here to-day.
- " 24. The day of election. All the candidates are busy canvassing. Mr. Baskara Rao is duly elected as the Badminton captain. The hostel rejoices over his victory. The deserving man always wins.
- " 25. The elections are over. Thank heavens! All is quiet on block-fronts.
- July 3. I year Class is formed.
- " 4. M. Hegde has arrived. Even the most optimistic has now to believe that the Agricultural College has reopened.
- " 13. The College Day and Conference is opened by Hon. Mr V. V. Giri. K. Bhaskaram creates a record by bagging 4 prizes of the II year class.
- " 16. G. H. Madhuram sees the first picture in the freeman Hall. (Shown free).
- " 25. Ananthakrishna Rao of the I year gives a lecture on 'Manners' behind the 11th Block.
- August 1. The Tennis courts are reopened by the Principal with the addition of one court.
- " 2. R. Veeraraghavan has the honour of being defeated by Sri. Bobjee.
- " 13. Bhaskara Rao wins over E. V. J. Cunha and proves his mettle.
- " 15. Sri. Sundareswara Iyer, Headmaster of the Wardha School gives a lecture on "Wardha Scheme." A purse is presented to him by the Agricultural College students. M. Sulaiman presides.
- " 19. Election of student representatives to the M. A. S. Union takes place. K. Rajasekara Shetty, T. Kailasa Rao and K. Ch. Vengala Rao are declared elected, amidst deafening cheers of 15 members.
- " 21. Sreshta and Ramasubramanian, the representatives of classes III & II respectively leave for Orumanayoor,—Carrying the gifts and good wishes of the students to Mr. & Mrs. Verghese.

- „ 18&20 Cricket match between our college and the American College, Madura results in a victory for our team. We congratulate our cricket captain 'as also ' S. V. ' for their remarkable display.
- „ 24. Prof. K. C. Ramakrishnan gives a lecture on "Consolidation of holdings".
- „ 25. Second lecture by Mr. Ramakrishnan.
- „ 26. Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy addresses the students:— Students perturbed at a wide divergence between the subject announced and what the lecturer talked about. Mr. Ramakrishnan surprises the audience by saying that cricket is the anathema of a college student. He would have rued the remark if he had told the same to the Pentangular audience.
- „ 28. A debate in the Freeman Hall. Rajashekara Shetty presides. Mr. Kanti Raj is the observer. Attendance poor. The long succession of meetings we had, is evidently the cause. The speeches of Venkatarathnam and Sundararajan are punctuated with cheers.
- Dec. 1. General Mess goes down in membership from 45 to 16. West Coast Mess displaces General Mess from the main dining hall.
- 1940
- January 1. G. V. Chellappa makes a new-year resolution, not to make any more resolutions.
- „ 3. Second year students start on their educational tour to the West Coast.
- „ 5. The world record for climbing down a coconut tree is smashed by Jagannathan by falling down from a 30' coconut tree at Kasargod in exactly 1 1/98 second.
- „ 9. Selection exam. results announced; no detentions in the II and III years.
- „ 12. Second year students arrive at Coimbatore after completion of the tour. The students defy the jutkawalas and cover the distance from station to estate on "shanks' mares".
Mr. P. A. Venkateswaran, the leader of the party looking like a veritable G. O. C.
- „ 15. Foot ball match between I & III years. Mr. C. Ramaswamy after witnessing the match, says, that any day Murthy-Raju will find a place in the All India Rugby team.
- „ 16. Rajasekhara Shetty on getting up, finds, a big bundle in his room with a slip attached to it, which runs as follows "Herewith, your cycle R. I. P. (Sd.) Ananthakrishna Rao." From this, Shetty has to gather that Ananthakrishna Rao to whom he had lent his byke must have had an accident.



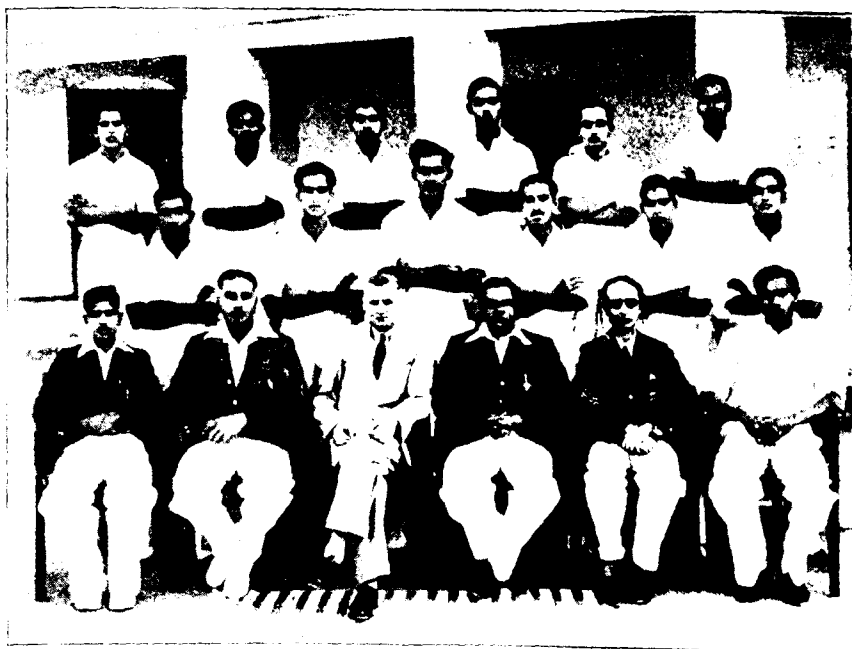
Members of the Executive Committee, Students' Club, 1939-40.



The College Hockey Eleven.



The College Foot-Ball Team.



The College Cricket Eleven.
Winners in the Madras University Inter-Collegiate
Cricket Tournament, 1939-40.

Dr. Burns gives a lecture on Agricultural research practices in India.

„ 19. Sir T. Vijayaraghavachariar addresses the Students' Club. Our cricket XI and athletes leave for Madras.

„ 26. Rev. J. D. Valois of the American Arcot Mission delivers the 1st course of University extension lectures.

Feb. 1. Victory Cup Hockey tournament. III years play against the second years and get defeated by 1:3. Ramasubramanian—very tired after the game, for he was one of the line umpires.

„ 8. Hunt for a man to preside over the club-day begins. Hard time, indeed, for the club secretary and the vice-president of the club.

„ 17. Club day sports — College maidan teeming with hundreds of people.

Inter-mess tug-of war, the most interesting item. Andhra mess wins proving beyond any doubt, the superiority of a vegetarian diet over a non-vegetarian diet.

„ 24. Club day. The grandest event of the term—variety entertainment put up by the students very much appreciated.

„ 25. After effects of the happy day that preceded. The Hostel gloomy—students think it is high time they take to studies.

March 1. The arena of activity of students has shifted from the club room to the various blocks. Students busy with their books.

Some of the optimistic fraternity think, they can easily make amends for their comparative inactivity during the rest of the 11 months of the year, if they work for 23 hours per day (Figures arrived at by Murthi Raju.)

"The Struggle of April".

TWO months of sleepless nights! Every day the familiar faces became more and more strange with overgrown beard. Each morn was the scene of sunken and ruddy eyes recalling a riotous night. At every moment emaciated frames emerge out of their dens frantic with mental load and vomiting into the air what they acquired in the night. While some were engaged in gossips of their past adventures, the more professional mugs were busy finding out a more lucky den.

The 3rd of April—the eve of the struggle came with its usual stride while the tide of unceasing cramming was proceeding with redoubled vigour. Life seemed to be absent in our camp which was forty strong. Every one with a book in hand was in deep meditation as if to win the Universe. While many lingered on their way to the mess, some flew to get charged with fresh ammunition. The night fell, little or no food was taken by the members of our camp. Every den was occupied in time, the occupant busy preparing for the impending struggle. The desire to face it bravely made several of us become immune to the fear of mid-night ghosts.

The next morning—the beginning of the theoretical phase of the enterprise saw us bravely facing it with unflinching courage. Never did we feel that we would be taken prisoners, if defeated. The fight of the day proved to be a success by the number of cheerful faces rushing out of the hazardous arena. The struggle was renewed on the succeeding days and fought with effect. The set-back was received in the field of Chemistry—a defeat to be remembered by all. The burning of the midnight oil proved to be of no avail, when most of us failed to answer the challenge. A good many of us grew desperate while some kept on turning the challenge sheet in a pensive mood—the fate of the jackal holding the tortoise and searching for its head to get a grasp. The hitch continued for full three hours; several of us received serious injuries threatening our fall. With heavy hearts we retreated again to our camp hoping to struggle with greater valour in the practical phase of the fight.

For unknown reasons there was lull in the camp for full six days and we lost no time in getting the sufficient reinforcements to continue the fight to a successful termination. The practical phase of the struggle began in right earnest. We had to battle both within the arena as well as in the open field. Here again to our greatest disappointment, the fight in the Chemistry arena stood in the way of our hope for success. Many of us had to take to A. R. P. shelters to escape the gassed area while some had the misfortune to receive local burns. A few including a bosom friend of mine received fatal wounds. The fight continued for two more days and our last day's encounter was

confined to an open field. We had to cut through unseen foes at the direction of our Commander and we did fight with patience at the sacrifice of our dear sweat, if not life. The battle was short and I was the first man to receive a gash.

Uncertain of the result of our doings we retreated from the field of action to our base for a little rest, when we received orders of a well earned home leave. It was gratifying that the efforts of our company were commended by the Head quarters and some were mentioned in despatches for conspicuous bravery. But the inevitable happened and some of the company were lost in the struggle, for us to bemoan their loss.

K. S.

Immortal Love.

Distance cannot separate us
But lends an enchanting view
And puts us in communion with each other;
Barriers of distance, we have broken
And none can fetter us!

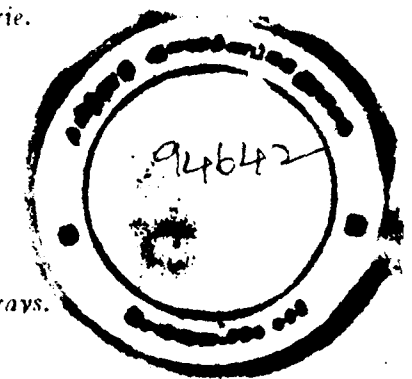
O my love! your beauty in the morning glory
So rapturously I devour
Forgetting myself and the world.
Your sweet voice in the chirping of the birds
To hear, I get up from my reverie.

Thought of you in trance I sit
Minutes, hours pass by
And I am lulled to sleep
Your sweet lullaby
In the babbling brook nearby.

Are you angry with me, dear?
For I see your blazing eyes
In the midday sun's scorching rays.
I sit up to woo you, dear
Till I finally see you smile.

I see your calm smiling face
In the tranquil scenic beauty,
And I dance with delight
Till I see you fade away
In the darkness which fills every space.

A. G. Kesava Reddy.



It is a Topsy-turvy world.

I HAVE often felt amused at the way things go awry in this world. Alladin's lamp brought him the things he wanted, but in our case a mysterious something effects things which we do not want. Otherwise why should the penultimate Saturday synchronise with the studying mood that I seldom creep into. The rain ever makes it a point to come, when I go out in my best clothes. Encouraged by bright weather I think of donning my best suit and I actually go out, but, before I have gone half a mile it begins to rain, not cats and dogs, mind you, but whole menageries. So many times has this simple phenomenon occurred, that the weather clerk always draws up his weather chart in accordance with my holiday attire. Undoubtedly my best clothes are more reliable than the "cumulo-nimbus".

Now, as I scribble these lines, I see my time-piece before me. I see it, I said, for I do not hear it. It is evidently taking rest. Surely silence is golden, why? I say it is radium itself, when, the hen-pecked husband, who returns home rather late, has to face a termagant wife. But such a silence is unbecoming in a time-piece.

The alarm side of it is simply tragic. It goes off at the most unearthly hours and wakes up the wrong people. Suddenly at 11-30 a. m. it sounds the alarm and the result is my next door neighbour wakes up. Once he is out of his bed nobody in the block can ever dream of a sound nap, for he belongs to the musically-inclined fraternity which pays the least heed to the feelings of neighbours. 'Music bath all the charms that soothes the savage beasts' says my neighbour as an answer to my importunities to him not to sing. I doubt not about the veracity of the assertion; but all that I want him to know is, that there is an ocean of difference between music as such and his efforts. But it is no use arguing with him, for once an idea gets into his grey matter, nothing short of trephining can bring it out. So I have decided to put up with his music, and the silence of my time-piece.

The other day, we went for boating, and the unlucky bloke that I was, I had to be satisfied with a place in dangerous proximity to the sail. Throughout I had a vision of Dante's inferno. I do not know how. The impression on the mind of the sail seemed to be, that we were enacting a funeral, and that I was the corpse and itself the winding sheet. That the boat did not capsize, I simply mention as a statement of fact: why it did not upset, I am unable to offer any reason. I have often thought about the matter since, and I think the result may have been brought about by the natural obstinacy of all things in this world. The boat may possibly have come to the conclusion, judging from a cursory view of our behaviour, that we had come out for a morning suicide, and had there-upon determined to disappoint us.

Often have I felt that there is a secret understanding between my cycle-lamp and the Estate Havildar. Whenever I go with a lamp the Havildar is not there but let me but forget the lamp for a single day and the Havildar is at the gate! So many times has this phenomenon occurred, that, now if I take my lamp, half a dozen of my friends go without theirs, for nine-to-one the Havildar won't be there.

Such is this world! and every object (animate and inanimate) seems to have secretly conspired to make man's life anything but happy.

Ah, how I wish I had an Alladin's lamp.

Upsidonia, B. Sc. class III.

The Girl with the Golden Hair.

I met her first at Variety Hall,
And then at Coronation Ball;
Whene'er I met my heart was all,
For the girl with the golden hair.

Along the beach she went on a rick,
Giving my heart a happy kick;
Alas for me, I could not speak,
To the Girl with the Golden Hair.

She a good ten and seven,
Looked like an angel down from Heaven;
And so, into my heart was driven,
A desire for the Girl with the Golden Hair.

With a face beaming like moon-light,
She sat in the rick, without looking left or right,
But in my heart was a regular fight,
About the Girl with the Golden Hair.

With sparkling eyes and a Cleopatra nose,
She was a study in her saree rose;
But, into my mind I had to force,
The picture of the Girl with the Golden Hair.

So, Editor, please do not swear,
But tell me from your comfortable chair,
Do you think we will make a happy pair,
Me and my Girl with the Golden Hair?

By C. Sankara Rao, B. Sc. I.

Our Idol.

IN any gathering of students—he goes un-noticed. Frail, medium statured, dark but not ugly, with a conspicuous nose which relieves his otherwise plain features—not prominent at anything in particular, but sure of many things perplexing to others—a slip of a boy is K. Bhaskaram—our idol.

Cool and calculating, debonair, methodical in his ways and moderate in his views—despising nothing and dominating none—a perfect bohemian—Bhaskaran is devoted to his duties as only a few could be. He has a weak frame but his worst weakness is for monopolising the first prizes in any subject he sets his heart upon. To attain proficiency in every subject of a class is not an easy matter but for Bhaskaram it is perfectly easy—as easy as he makes it. He has been a big stumbling block to many of us—these three years—but he cannot help it. Prizes go to him as the greedy flies to the candy, a bitter pill for many an aspirant for academic honours. He may not be a genius—but his 'grey matter' is made of a better 'alloy' than those of his compeers—a practical mind with plenty of practical wisdom.

Others are thankful that he has not exploited the field of sports—~~which branch he has left to those that have more of brawn than brain.~~ Nevertheless, he is not a book-worm. He reads less—much less than many, but assimilates more than what a dozen could do, put together, and keeps himself physically fit by mild participation in many a game.

He looks grave but his looks are simulating. A simple mind—but fathoms deep—always alert—always responsive. He has developed a sense of exquisite aloofness which keeps the inquisitive at a distance. In the field of politics, his views do not matter, although it is indicated from his rare expressions that he sponsors socialistic ideas. In controversial politics, he does not interfere and has cultivated a studied detachment from wrangles and quibbles. He may be lacking in impulse or momentum in this direction but he has an unrivalled patience.

Two decades ago little Bhaskaram must have been chuckling in his mother's bosom but the present travail ducked him in the pool of matrimony and he is all drenched. We trust that this marvellous combination of several desirable qualities will do justice to the Arch Breeder of Nature and transmit the valuable genes to several generations of his progeny.

M. R. M. Punja, B. Sc. Class III.



Our Idol—K. Bhaskaran, B. Sc., III.



M. R. M. Punja.
Athletic Champion, 1958-4.



R. Veeraraghavan,
Tennis Champion & Winner of
Paralakimidi Cup for All-round
Sportsmanship.



The Men behind The Hostel Tatler.



C. Ramaswami,
the General Coach, at the Nets.



Fancy Dress Competition,
1939-40.



Fancy Dress Competition, 1938-39.

A Ghostly House.

GOING along the Avanasi Road as you go to the heart of the town, somewhere on the left you will see, an old three storeyed building which must have been a palace of some rich Chettiar living in the near past. The building is not very close to the road but a few yards away from it and is islanded by a huge compound. This compound should have had a beautiful garden—the pride of Coimbatore. But now, we see only the more permanent features of that garden; as broken down water fountains, baths, flower trees, avenues etc.

This dilapidated house was said to have a reputation for ghosts, of which fact, Chander and I were blissfully ignorant as we had just then joined the Agricultural College and were strangers to Coimbatore. One day as we were returning from a friend's house, all of a sudden the sky darkened, and it began to rain in torrents. Looking around for shelter we saw no other place to go than this building. We cycled right in and waited on the verandah for the rain to subside. We found the house in a desolate condition with the doors left ajar and few of the window shutters wrenched off the hinges.

It was getting darker and darker—the time probably nearing eight and rain was getting heavier. The hostel rule that we must be in our rooms by 8-30 P. M. worked in our minds and I grew impatient.

"Say, Chander", I said "I do not think, we should wait for the rain to stop, as it is already late and it would be impossible for us to reach the hostel in time for food, if we waited. What do you say? Shall we go in spite of the rain?"

My friend Chander has an adventurous sort of mind and seeing the huge ancient building, did not like the idea of missing the prospect of a night's adventure. I knew what was in his heart, although he replied.

"What Prakash, don't you think it absolutely foolish to venture out in this blasted rain and get pneumonia for trying the experiment. I think, the warden will be more pleased if he knew that we sacrificed our night meal and stayed out for such a reason."

So, we remained in the house for the night. The rain had not only not stopped but seemed to increase in intensity.

Chander who had been sitting down thoughtfully for some time suddenly rose up.

"Prakash, come, let us explore this empty house; you need not be afraid; I have a torch".

It is true, I am chicken-hearted although I do not admit it. I had a premonition, that this building was likely to contain ghosts or the like. I put on a bold face with my chin right up and shouted 'Righto'.

We crossed the threshold of the house and as we walked our shod feet resounded in the rooms we traversed.

What was that? I am sure I heard it—the sound of a door banging. I held my breath, while my whole body trembled.

"Wait", I just managed to whisper "Didn't you hear that sound?"

"What sound, you ass?"

"That sound which seemed to come from there". I whispered indistinctly, while my teeth chattered perceptibly.

"Come on, don't be a goat" bawled out Chander and dragged me to the small room which contained the stair case leading to the second floor.

We had just gone to the second floor, when the same sound was heard again. This time it was louder and nearer. Even deaf Chander heard it.

"You heard it this time, Didn't you, Chander?"

"Yes I did. But I think that it is some wind that is banging the bally doors".

It was about this time that the rain had abated and gentle breeze had sprung up which we felt through some of the open windows. Knowing this, I objected to his conjecture, attributing the cause to the slight breeze. But he quietened me and pulled me on. Suddenly he turned around and said "What is the matter?"

Then I remember wandering in the second floor for sometime. When all of a sudden, we heard steps coming down the stair-case from the third floor. We heard them distinctly and could count them; One! Two!! Three!!!—!!!!

Everything became still. The steps on the stair case had ceased and by the sound of the foot steps we knew that somebody was coming towards us. At that time we were standing or rather pinned to the floor in the middle of a large hall.

At the threshold of our room the sound of steps stopped but, in floated a white turbaned figure of huge dimensions wearing a white garment similar to that of the peon of a Madras Minister minus his office sash. His eyes shone like two powerful lights and the rows of teeth sparkled in the darkness. In his black hand, he held a massive *talwar* and he moved slowly—very slowly towards us. While raising his formidable weapon threateningly, he began shouting some gibberish which I concluded was some old Tamil war cry.

Seeing the dreadful apparition, my knees rocked with great fear and I opened my mouth to shout. But I could not get my voice. I felt a helpless wretch. Then I saw the glistening *talwar* come down, aimed right on my neck, and it came nearer and nearer. My knees grew weak and in my confusion, I gave a shriek which would



What odds!
Oh, poor Agricultural Students!



Is your goal brighter?

Darwin Contradicted.



C. S. Krishnamurthi, Class III.

have wakened even the dead from their graves. God only knows how I managed to find my voice again.

Every thing became blurred and through the haziness I heard Chander's voice faintly enquiring "

" How are you feeling Prakash "?

I slowly opened my eyes and looked around. Yes, I was still in the building. Chander was bending over me and wiping a wet cloth on my face. I then recollected what had happened and began to wonder.

" Chander didn't we go around the house "?

" Yes, we did, but keep quiet for some time ".

" Tell me Chander, please, what happened after that "?

" Alright if you promise to listen quietly."

" Yes, I do ".

" When we were going to the second floor, you again heard that voice and I pulled you up but unfortunately you slipped and fell down the stairs, a limp body ."

" Seeing you utterly unconscious, I grew alarmed. Being a trained scout I tried to calm my fears and carried you down to the first floor and laid you down on the verandah. I opened your buttons and removed all the pressure on the body. Then I tested your heart. It was beating low ."

" I switched on the torch and searched for any wound on the body. Except for the huge swelling on the fore-head there was nothing else. (Strangely enough I did not feel the swelling and so its presence had escaped me.) I wetted my hand-kerchief and gave you a cold fomentation. I think you had better sleep on. By the morning you will be fit to ride back to the Hostel. Instead of an interesting night, you have given me an anxious one". (But wasn't it an interesting one for me ?)

I have not told Chander my dream, but if he comes to know about it he will start ragging me as the chicken hearted warrior.

N. J. Sreshta, B. Sc, Class III.

Personalities of the Day.

VERY rarely is a Prophet honoured in his own times. So is the fate of a genius. Either his greatness is completely ignored or recognised only when it is too late, perhaps not earlier than his consignment to the cold marble. The world recognised the greatness of Jesus, the purity of his soul and the high philosophy of his preachings not when he was alive, but only after he sacrificed himself for the "betterment of the humanity." The world paid homage to the brilliant intellect of that "illiterate genius and philosopher" only when he was no more; of course I am referring to Shakespeare. But this is only one of those accepted axioms, always accompanied by those noble exceptions which go to prove the veracity of the rule. For example our friend Dr. Graham Sullivan is a living example of such exceptions. The village school-master openly admitted the precocious intelligence of Graham, the boy. Now the world accepts without the least hesitation, that he was a genius, he is and he will continue to be so as long as he lives...

He hails from a remote village, a point, which he shares in common with most of the great men of the day. He will be twenty three next July. He is a blooming guy of perfect build and medium height: his cheeks are ruddy indicating the perfect health he enjoys; his lips, though of the 'bloated type' are cherry red. In short, he is a handsome youth with an attractive personality. As a matter of fact that is the reason, why he was popularly known as "Robert Taylor" in his College...

He was educated at the "American College" of the London University and he took his "Bachelor" degree in his eighteenth year. It would be impossible to attempt enumerating here, all the academic distinctions he won at the institution, during the short period of his stay. Suffice it to say that he was known for his oratory and he filled the Presidential chair of the London University Students' Club, on several occasions. Unfortunately I have nothing to say about his sporting activities but he was the winner of the trophy for "All round inefficiency". In this connection it would be interesting to know that he has claims to be the winner of the 'Tennikoit County Shield'. Circumstantial evidence being absent, let us fervently hope that it is not far from truth. By Jove! I forgot to tell you. In one of his weak moments he confessed to me that he tried "Tennis" for 4 years in India and gave it up finally at London, in utter despair at finding no improvement in his game.

Soon after his return to India in 1937 a Doctorate was conferred on him by the Aligarh University. We are kept entirely in the dark

as to the subject he chose for his thesis. Never commit the folly of asking him about it, if you meet him. He is very sore when any one mentions the topic. Of late he was elected the "lifetime Secretary" of the Methodist Club (by the way I may tell you, it is a human miscellany, a curious conglomerate of discordant and incompatible individuals who agree only to differ from each other). Since his entry into the Methodist Club, he has eclipsed Colonel Bore, who was till then the dominating figure of the club. He is always complimented in the club for the choice of his toilet materials and the smartness of his dress. But personally I would have liked his dress but for the alarming shortness and gaudy colours of his coats.

Dr. Sullivan, as you know is a good conversationalist and a strict believer in "Johnsonian labour". He asks us to believe that in this wide world there is not even a single subject in which he is not well versed. He is all-in-all and talks with authority on every topic. His arguments are, more often than not, unconvincing and queer and as unacceptable as a vegetable bitter. If he succeeds in winning over an assembly to his side, it is by virtue of his high sounding language and richness of his vocabulary and not due to the strength of his arguments. Very rarely can we rely on what he considers as an established fact. He is not worried in the least if his arguments are disproved or his statements shattered. Bluffing is his strength.

If Dr. Graham does not approve of a proposition or accept the truth of a statement, you can be dead sure of the contrary. The above rule is reported to have constantly given cent per cent success till now. He has of late resorted to patriotism. Now a days he wears only khaddar. He has begun some constructive work in his village for the betterment of Agriculture. Just now, the local correspondent of the Tatler rolled into my room to tell me that Dr. Sullivan is the recipient of 'Rao Sahib' a New year honour—rejoice, revel, on this happy occasion. Cheerio readers! we shall meet again very soon, if the editor permits me to present to you Colonel Bore.

Saliak, B. Sc. Class III.

The Dream of "Mars"

IT is with great pleasure that I give you here an account of the recent dream of "Mars". I hope you will enjoy it by reading and feel cheerful as much as I do when writing this.

It puzzled me many a time, why man should not have been created in a different way altogether from what he is at present. The following idea struck me when I was inoculated a few days ago. My hand began to pain awfully and I could neither eat nor read, nor do anything satisfactorily. If I began to read, my hand would begin to pain immediately. Why should it pain? Because the hand was in league with the brain and it would communicate all its sorrows and pleasures to the brain. The brain, a sympathiser of all the other organs of the body, would either weep or laugh according to the situation, so that, when my inoculated hand made an application of its grievance, to its seat of Justice, the brain began to weep, the eyes began to water, and the mouth began to sound. It was then that the idea occurred to me, why the various parts of the body should not work separately, without the help of any other organs. This idea took hold of me like a devil, and I worked it up hour after hour and day after day, until at last I have come to a conclusion.

Physiologically, the body of man has been divided into the head, the trunk and the limbs. These parts work as a harmonious whole. If any part of the body is affected, at once the mind becomes conscious and it feels sorry for its co-organ. The mind seems to have a parental attitude towards all the other organs. For our purpose the physiological parts of the body have got to be sub-divided. The head for example, into the ears, the eyes, the nose, the mouth etc., and the limbs into the legs, the hands etc., Supposing the human body had been created in this manner, then each organ would do its business quite independently. Then man would have been a different animal; and this is the wonderful, imaginative being, the man as he ought to have been, that I am going to portray below.

According to this system, the eyes, the hands, the brain etc., are all separate ...each working by itself. Then it would be very convenient to all of us. We shall prove some of the merits and at the same time point out the defects of this system. First with the merits.

Many a man is called intelligent because he is a book-worm. He gets a first class in an examination because he has been a book-worm. We are sure that most of us could get the same thing if we had also been book-worms. But we are better than that. We are jolly-good-fellows, 'The Idlers' in the words of R. L. Stevenson. But if the body

* "Mars" is the pen-name of the Author.

had been made up of separate and portable parts, every one of us would get a first class very easily. For, you can place your head (Brain) and eyes on the table and ask them to study all the twenty-four hours of the day if you like; but at the same time you can be doing some other work with the other portions of the body. If an examination were held then, we cannot blame our fates that we were busily engaged in unavoidable duties of household and others which took away much of our time. For we can do our household work and study our lessons at the same time.

Whenever we go late to the College, our grievance is that we are not fed in time. But if the imaginary man is created, you can ask your stomach to sit and take the meal, while you can send your eyes, ears and brain to the College bench, to hear the lecture. Certainly a boon to students.

Many business-men of to-day complain that they have no time and most of them have not found a solution to save time and this idea seems to be the correct solution.

We are extremely sorry for the poet who wrote,

'One thing at a time and that done well
Is a very good rule as many can tell'

For his theory would be shattered to pieces if the imaginary man becomes a reality. We can do many things at the same time and that too well. It seems to me that it was perhaps with the idea not to displease the poet, that God created man as a harmonious whole.

These are some of the merits. But what about the defects? We may no doubt agree that the idea is very good, but we have to consider the de-merits as well. Why did not God create this new kind of man? Really the idea never occurred to him. We are absolutely certain about that.

We shall now suppose that this new man is created. Then it would be impossible to find out a thief. If a man stole a thing-whom could you accuse? Perhaps it is the hand that stole the thing. You would certainly accuse the hand of the crime. You may even prosecute the hand. But the criminal does not care much if you prosecute one of his hands. He has got the other hand for his use. The loss of one hand would not at all be a very great loss to him.

Secondly, the Penal Code will have to be revised. The section under capital punishment will have to be removed altogether from the code. For, whom could you hang? You could hang only the neck. The other parts of the body, it would be very difficult for you to search. The criminal is very clever. Therefore when he comes to know that he will be hung, he would keep his neck on the scaffold, send his head to England, his limbs to America, eyes to an opera, and

his belly to a hotel ! It would therefore be impossible for the hang-man to collect all the parts of an individual and hang him completely. In fact the hang-man will have to be himself hung many a time for committing illegal murder ! For, there is every probability that he will bring the eyes of one man, the belly of another man, the hands of a lady and make a mess of it and thinking all the while that he is hanging the right person. In fact he will be murdering certain portions of the body of A, B, C, X, Y, and Z, so that the section on hanging will have to be altogether removed from the I. P. C.

We now see how good the idea is. We shall make a written application to God to give us the benefit of this idea. If the reply does not come within about a week, we know what we shall do. (We shall all separate the organs of our body and at the same time go on Hunger-strike.)

We shall send an ultimatum to him.

B. Narayana Reddy B. Sc. Class III.

Believe It or Not

The craze of challenge being over, Sreshta thinks it wise to play Tennis now.

R. Veeraraghavan has submitted a thesis on 'How to break promises honourably' !

While Gokhale was titrating, K. Srinivasan actually slipped into the 2,000 c. c. beaker and was all but drowned.

D. Narasimham and Sanyasi Rao have been chosen to represent the Agricultural College at the All India Bus Owners' conference to be held at Salem under the Presidentship of Mr. Appaji Rau, Asst. Steward.

K. V. S. Suryanarayanamurthy is busy compiling his "Tamil made easy".

The Hostel rumour has it, that Messrs Chaynulu and Narayana Reddi have been recommended for the Nobel prize for peace. We hope they won't be bracketed.

Between Big Bull and the Tatler Correspondent

Big Bull was moodily chewing his cud in a corner of the yard. I approached him with all the politeness of a news correspondent and,

Corres. Hollo Big Bull !

Big Bull answered me with a frightful toss of his head.

Corres. Now, Big Bull, you are repeating one of those pranks that doesn't benefit a fellow like you. You know you are the bulkiest chap in our estate and bulk, I tell you, always has gentleness about it !

Big Bull Sorry, but I thought you were one of those people, they call themselves as B. Sc. Ags., the very sight of whom makes my hump shudder.

Corres. And pray, what may be the cause of this all ?

Big Bull My hump ! You have an innocent face my friend. It all happened the other day, Wednesday if I remember right when I was mourning over the death of one of my beloveds. (Big Bull presented a sorry figure, his face upturned in thought.)

Corres. And shall I know what bad luck actually befell you that day ?

Big Bull They all circled around me—those wretched people—the scum of your society and what not I call them and began insulting me. Pinched me here and there and croaked and laughed. The devil take those words, 'Mandibular joint' said one, 'Point of the buttock' said another, 'Corpse' croaked a third. And one rogue pulled my tail—ho ! my hump and horn ! How I hate to think of it ! I raised my left leg, bent upon teaching him a unique lesson ; and hush—he ran away (Big Bull laughed a cynical laugh) and a plump fellow, he had a squint in his left eye, he called me 'Poor fellow'. I didn't like the word much. (You Know).

Corres. Is that all, my Good friend ?

Big Bull Not a bit Sir, do listen. They brought damned things, 'bandages' they called them, and tied them round my legs. Bandaging an unwounded, healthy fellow like me ! hum—how they dare do it ! I bit the cursed thing when they all went away, bit it until it was all pulp. My hump ! That's my spirit !

Corres. My Big Bull, you are entirely mistaken I tell you. You know they do it for your own good, I mean your own people in the broadest sense. They just get familiar with your

- own make and after that they will do good, good, and nothing but good, good for you, good for your beloveds and good for your sons. You follow me?
- Big Bull Not much. But for your sake I'll be better mannered hereafter.
- Corres. Right! and now to the matter in hand. You know I have come to get some information *about* yourself.
- Big Bull Pardon me if I ask you to take up point by point.
- Corres. There I have a good fellow! First of all let me know your age.
(Big Bull opened his mouth and kept silent).
- Corres. Thank you. Your weight?
- Big Bull Dear Sir, I ask your patience in that matter.
- Corres. Well now, Big Bull, I am afraid we are facing a more personal question. I know your gentleness will not allow you get angry at a fellow like me. May I know how many beloveds you take per year?
- Big Bull Things were alright chap, but of late, I have had some misunderstanding with the Surgeon and I mean to take up a wholesale strike in that matter.
- Corres. My good Bull, that would be too radical to be sure. But do tell me what is amiss here.
- Big Bull My good Sir, hear me. My daughter, my poor dear miss, she was murdered and by the surgeon himself. Oh my hump! that love's labour should be lost! Buhoo—
- Corres. Anything else, my chap?
- Big Bull Yes Sir, and much of it. He laughed louder than others the other day and poked a cursed instrument into my mouth. I couldn't do much but gape at him, my mouth wide open. My hump! I suffered much.
- Corres. My friend, I am at a loss to say anything here at present. But I do promise to speak to him and set matters right. But in the mean-time, do give up the strike.
- Big Bull Yes, and for your sake, mind you.
- Corres. Thank you. Shake hands.
- Big Bull Shake heads.

On Sleep

"Early to bed and early to rise
Makes one healthy, wealthy and wise."

Thus runs a copy-book maxim set to our ink-stained youth. Like many others of its category, this has a ton of truth in it, but some inner voice prevents me from swallowing this doctrine entirely. In regard to the "early to bed" part of it I heartily concur with the poet, but the latter half somehow stinks in my nostrils and no amount of argument will ever make me an early riser. You may tell me that only early risers go to heaven. In that case I prefer to be in hell.

Now coming to the first part of the maxim—I am not a night bird. I simply love my bed. I know that insufficient sleep makes a man pale and sallow and I always aim at the peach-bloom complexion which comes from a sensible twelve hours between the sheets. One of the eminent doctors—I forget which—once said, that a certain number of hours' sleep each night—I cannot recall at the moment how many—makes a man something—which for the time being has slipped out of my memory.

But alas, for the student, who is dogged by ever-recurring examinations! Can he ever retire to bed early? Certainly not!!! It is indeed these examinations that ruin the health of India's youth. I have got a lot more to say against this inhuman system of examination, but I think I had better be silent on that rather touchy subject.

O, sleep, thou nature's balm
What harm has not been done to thee
By the wretched examination.

Were not these lines a spontaneous poetic outburst of a student who was preparing for an examination? Oh! what an uphill task it is—this fight against sleep. You requisition the help of all your oratorical powers and try to convince yourself, that the examination is close at hand and that you have got to read. Well so far so good. You enter the room all right—why, you actually take the book and start reading. You cover a page. Now comes the ordeal. You soon find that something is wrong somewhere, for you proceed with infinite slowness. Somehow you find yourself stranded at one sentence. To use a more common simile, your eyes remain glued to a sentence like a postage stamp. You become desperate. Doubts arise as to whether, it is not better to fail in examination, than to secure a pass at so great a peril to your health. Well, the next step is the inevitable one of switching off the light, and thus ends the travail, happily no doubt, but with far reaching repercussions on the marks-list. How foolish indeed of those moralists to say that "well begun is half done" and all that sort of stuff.

I have often wondered why our College hours begin at 6.30 a. m. I simply cannot understand the rationale of it. I think the time-table must have been drawn up by one of those insomniacs. Otherwise there is absolutely no reason why they should insist on so early an hour as that. Whoever has not felt that the early hours of the day are best spent beneath a snug shawl. Oh! to be supinely lying on bed—to be a lotus-eater for a while—to be feasting oneself on the chimerical visions and contemplating on a hundred and one sweet things—among others of the miss next door who had cast a sheep's eye on you. It is simply marvellous. It is indeed with a sense of pity that I look upon these human larks for whom the day begins at 4 a. m. for they deny themselves some of the happiest hours the Almighty has given to man. As for me it is simply impossible to get up in the early morning, not that I have not tried, but my attempts to rise early are simply a list of failures. I feel I can keep out of bed alright, once I got out of it. It is the wrenching away of the head from the pillow that I find difficult and no amount of overnight determination makes it easier.

Coming to a consideration of those men who suffer from insomnia, I have often wondered, how there ever could exist such a malady, when a science called plant chemistry is in existence. You think, reader, that it is a 'terminological inexactitude' and that I ought to have said "medicine" instead of "Chemistry". But I stick to my word "Chemistry" still. Indeed, plant Chemistry can do a lot to alleviate this human affliction. You wonder how there could ever be any connection between Plant Chemistry and Human Pathology. It is quite simple. My grandpa was suffering from insomnia and now he is a veritable *Kumbakarna*. Must have started taking bromide mixture, you may say. He did nothing of the kind. All he did was to start reading my plant chemistry notes and Lo! what did I find! In a trice he was snoring and snoring terribly. Yesterday I received a letter from him and he says that my notes are a wonderful panacea to sleeplessness. "Why even the baby stopped crying and slept soundly when I started reading the notes aloud", he says. A glorious tribute to plant chemistry no doubt, but one, I can say at which Physiological chemists will start.

"Hail Kumbakarna,
May his tribe increase!"

U, Sumitra Rao, B. Sc., Class III.

Blue Book of the Hostel

THE Hostel is a combination of the most varied and unrelated elements. Amidst all the bewildering details,—an account of which I have herein given,—it is a system with unity in all its diversity. I came as a welcome friend into this cosmos of the heterogeneous.

When the dreams of youth are not yet at an end, the College life is as good as being buried alive for the long span of three years, understanding what we can, swallowing what we cannot. We are all ears and no tongue, grave as owls, never smiling, never joking. But, once out of the portals of the College, our innate fascination for all things of the vagabond order is at large.

Hostel life has thus greater attractions. To return and find that our room had been visited by a typhoon, to behold our mirror with the contents of a full tube of Neem tooth-paste smeared all over it, and the hoot-polish in the pomade or snow bottle, to discover some hideous figure reposing with ease on our bed, to find our black shoes meticulously polished with ox blood or vice-versa,—or to find all our belongings labelled at 'sale prices' and hung up in the room to represent a shop in a by-lane dealing in second hand goods,—these are just and mild jokes at which we are compelled to laugh at if we could, and weep over if we could not. Locks prove useless when hammers and files and screw-drivers are about. The poor electrician is always kept busy repairing burnt fuses, the culprit however invariably remaining anonymous.

The cynical world looks upon us as Bohemians. We are not bothered about it; we go our way, with perfect ease, undisturbed, and care two pin's heads, for anyone. The tempo of our age has quickened to a pace, which makes thinking for the morrow a tedium. Still our philosophy in a nut-shell is this! 'The world is so, full of a number of things. We are sure we should be happy as Kings'. Perhaps, our opinions rarely (or never?) tally with the rest of the material world. Happy are we who are growing up and growing get used to our own life.

A lot of bunk has been said and unsaid about our Hostel politics. If a stranger who does not know our ways were to hear us talk, he would think us awful fellows. The language! in a court of Law—they would nearly hang us for it. But as I see it and know it, our politics are more elementary, less purely political than that. In theory, we are out-and-out socialists; but in practice, we want silk pyjamas, superlative soaps, manicure sets and toilet requisites of an ultra blonde. Perhaps with some, socialism is a hobby.

Geniuses,—people who make history are not rare among us. But idiots of the superlative best, who stand at the other extreme of humanity, are not wanting. There is a perpetual race to do a supremely silly thing going on, for his name will take the precedence of every

other for a day or two; and he counts on a large return in publicity. At an absurd statement from an absurd student, we all roar with uncontrollable laughter which sweeps away all other considerations. There are people who would do almost anything to get into the news. The lure of notoriety exploits the human frailty and they do almost anything. This, often in the long run does mere harm to manners and morals. I speak with a feeling, because it seems that this sensation is a poison which saps both decency and intelligence and is deadly insidious. The reason is not far to seek. This desire is latent to a lesser or greater degree in most of us, like the desire to fall in love or to peer into an automobile. It is not strange that an average man of no great parts, is susceptible to this temptation. Some of the world's greatest and strongest minds have done no better. Is it not Garibaldi who proudly said on being outlawed with a price on his head: "It is the first time I have the pleasure of seeing my name in print".

The most enjoyable part of the day is the late evening and the hour following dinner. The glamorous hour between dusk and dark is looked forward to with a thrill. Hearken! there our wonderful radio, thrilling one's fibres! How glorious and immensely soothing it is to sit after our day's toil and hear the unseen music, whilst watching the blue tinged smoke drifting heavenwards into thinner air. Eternal bliss!

After dinner we divide ourselves into various groups, each party having something in common with the flock such as smoking, snuffing or chewing; but all of us have in abundance that stimulating sense for scandal; thus while the former is ephemeral, the latter keeps us on together. We go on in this sprightly manner till 9 p. m. and humour rocks us on and it goes from soul to soul, until the whole multitude rings out in an universal outburst. And then it ends, momentarily all of a sudden. The warden is sighted! Silence, ominous silence prevails over us for a brief span till the warden turns his back and is at a distance out of hearing. All too soon we resume. Our talks are variously diverse. But we talk for enjoyment and not for admiration. We live so little a life of our own that other people's lives take the first place in our thoughts. Or, perhaps, we are too interested in others to be sufficiently interested in ourselves. A good deal of legitimate fun is made at the expense of our College intellectuals.

Needless to say that our discussions are promiscuous. Some profess a polite interest and discuss with great concern about fantastic subjects like ladies' wares. We are at our best when our talk drifts on to the 'decorative sex'. The latest discussion was about the most useful finger to a lady. It was generally agreed after prolonged discussion as usual, that the 'little finger' is the most useful, for, round it she twists her husband.

Our tete-a-tete often drifts to the problem of marriage and what kind of girl each one of us would choose to be the apple of our hearts.

Our tastes are different. But we behave with decorum and serenity and parliamentatively when such important matters are at hand. Each man's choice is voted for. If any poor fellow chooses to disagree with the majority, woe be to him; the majority wish will be forced on him, for the majority opinion is always indubitably unbiased. Thus a man of short stature will have a girl of colossal height, so that he may feel with satisfaction as if her height were added to him. But it is with dismay I observe that all of us in spite of our ardent seeking, could not pitch upon a girl correspondingly short to suit our "Tall Man" and for our "man in black" a girl all fair. All these decisions are obviously taken after deep deliberation with full cognizance that 'opposites attract each other'.

Now to more mundane and everyday affairs. Bath-room Bhagavats are more numerous than people with clean chins. 'Music has charms' the monkey has said, as he rattled his tail in a jam tin. And this charm of music soothes the solitude of the bath-room. Our tunes are not those of the 'pied piper' who could upset a community, but like the music of the crow by a running stream.

If heaven is anywhere on earth, I believe it is here in the dining hall. It has no music, but is full of rhythm, which helps men loose their wits. We take the extra-ordinary chance for the true enjoyment of the little leisure. India, nay the whole world may be moribund, yet, we like John Brown's soul, go on with fun, frolic and little pranks of humour, sarcasm and wit. Thus under the small roof of the dining hall, covered with food and noisy with chatter, each man in turn narrates his little encounters, but no narrator is permitted to get to the end of anything unaided.

Thus we have an innate fascination for the vagabond order. We have that infinite capacity in abundance to go where we will and do what we please. We find a strange pleasure in herding together whether watching a match, in a cinema theatre or cycling about the streets, we are distinct by ourselves. Like the American soldier, we have the air of plenty, a sense of ease with ourselves and the world, a fund of good nature and a touch of self consciousness and modesty that is rarely absent.

And, we are not without our quarrels. They are our veritable battle fields and in these we show much of the canine in us; two dogs bark at each other, and the rest bark at them.

And for all these little frolics, we are abhorred and looked down upon with scepticism. Others are ignorant of the fact that ever since the time we acquired a sense to trace the inspired alphabet on a broken slate or sand, we have been attending school year in and year out for over two decades and from this hard drudgery at the desks, our fangled nerves and over-wrought brains, need we no escapade?

M. R. M. Punja, B. Sc. Class III.

Conundrums, Ancient and Modern

(For Officers only).

1. Who is the *sweetest* person in India?
Rao Bahadur T. S. Venkataraman, Sugar-cane Expert, because he gives us the *sweetest* canes.
2. Who is the biggest murderer in Coimbatore?
Mr. M. C. Cherian, the Entomologist, because he causes *death* to millions.....of insects.
3. Who is the biggest liar in Coimbatore?
Rao Sahib V. Ramanatha Iyer, Cotton Specialist, because he spins the longest *yarns*.
4. Who is the most *ancient* man in the College?
Mr. H. Shiva Rau, because he has an intimate knowledge of the *Pre-cambrian* period. (Geology).
5. Who is the most religious man in Coimbatore?
Rao Bahadur G. N. Rangaswami Iyengar, because he always keeps thinking of "*Sorghum*".
6. Who is the Specialist who thinks that *this College* belongs to him?
Mr. K. M. Thomas because he is the *My-Collegist* (Mycologist).
7. Who is the strictest *disciplinarian* in the College?
Mr. C. Ramaswamy for he punishes, everyball.
8. Why is Mr. R. C. Broadfoot the *Principal*?
Because he takes a good deal of *interest*. (in the students)
9. Who is the biggest *glutton* in Coimbatore?
Mr. C. R. Sreenivasa Iyengar, Paddy Specialist because he always thinks of his *Rice*.
10. Who is the most *polite* gentleman in this College?
Mr. C. Narasimha Iyengar, for he is the *Civil Engineer*.
11. Who is the *brightest* man in the College?
Mr. M. Kanti Raj, because he is the "*King of Brightness*."
12. Who is the most *patient* man on earth?
The gentle reader, who has gone through this article completely!

G. V. Chellappa B. Sc., III

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher's Farm

MR. BEECHER'S farm consists of thirty six acres and is carried on on strict scientific principles. He never puts in any part of a crop without consulting his book. He ploughs, reaps, digs and sows according to the best authorities, and the authorities cost him more than the other farming implements do. As soon as the library is complete, the farm will begin to be a profitable investment.

But book-farming has its draw-backs. On one occasion, when it seemed morally certain that the hay book could not be found, and before it was found it was late,—the hay was all spoiled. Mr. Beecher raises some of the finest crops of wheat in the country, but the unfavourable difference between the cost of production and its market value, has interfered considerably with its success as a commercial enterprise.

His special weakness is hogs, however. He considers that hogs give the best return for his investments. He buys the original pig for a dollar and a half and feeds him on forty dollars' worth of corn and then sells him for about nine dollars. This is the only crop he ever makes any money on. He loses on the corn, but he makes seven dollars and a half on the hog. He does not mind this because he never expects to make anything on corn anyway. His strawberries would be a great success if the robins would eat turnips, but they won't, and hence the difficulty.

One of Mr. Beecher's most harassing difficulties in farming operations is due to the close resemblance of different sorts of seeds and plants to each other. Two years ago his foresight warned him that there was going to be a great scarcity for water melons, and therefore he put in a crop of seven acres of that fruit. But when they came up they turned out to be pumpkins, and he could not persuade any to buy his pumpkins. Sometimes, a portion of his crop goes into the ground, as the most promising sweet-potatoes and comes up in the form of the most execrable carrots.

When he bought his farm he found one egg in every hen's nest. He said that was just the reason why so many farmers failed—they scattered their forces too much—concentration was the idea. So he gathered those eggs together, and put them all under one experienced hen. That hen roosted over the contract, night and day for many Weeks under Mr. Beecher's personal supervision, but she could not "phase" those eggs. Why? Because they were those shameful porcelain things which are used by modern farmers as "Nest eggs".

Mr. Beecher's farm is a triumph. It would be easier if he worked it on shares with some one. But he cannot find anybody who is willing to stand half the expenses and there are not many that are able. Still persistence, in any cause, is bound to succeed. He was a very inferior farmer when he first began, but a prolonged and unflinching assault upon his agricultural difficulties has had its effect at last, and he is now just rising from affluence to poverty.

S. N. Ramasubramanyan, B. Sc. Class II.

Wise and Otherwise.

The warden wonders why he is never able to see Sumitra Rao and Raghavalu in their rooms. Evidently, sir, you do not go equipped with the microscope and schultze solution.

Ramana Rao tells us that there was IDLI-CONSUMING competition in the Andhra Mess. Well, Rao, who came second?

Punja wants us to fetch a purchaser for his bike. It is quite an easy thing Mr. Club Secretary; there is great demand for scrap iron now-a-days.

K. Narayana Rao asks us why we put on a funeral look whenever he sings. To tell you the truth Mr. Games Secretary, your singing reminds us of a pet-dog that died recently.

T. D. Muthuswami doubts whether he will ever be able to get into the third court. My dear chap, Rome was not built in a day and remember it is not even 3 years since you began Tennis.

Mr. G. N. R. maintains that work should be a pleasure. It is a pleasure which a good many students like to deny themselves.

We owe a great deal to Science, says a professor. Having just received the final reminder about electric bill, we agree.

"Songs which Veeraghavan sang at Pattambi, haunt us still" says Narayana Reddi. They should, verily he has murdered them.

"Read forget, read forget and read", This is the way to master Chemistry says Mr. H. Shiva Rao. Well Sir, the whole trouble with us, poor students, is that this study-cycle gets broken at the "Forget" point. (U. S. R.)

An Election Reflex.

JULY 20th was the day chosen for the elections. The previous night, need I say, the hostel was bustling with activity. There were canvassings, requests and even threats for votes. One of the candidates gave an extensive, eloquent and forcible election speech at the Hyde Park. All the while I was in my room busy combating with my books and sleep. Naturally the latter got the upper hand and there I was sleeping with my light on.

I don't know when exactly I woke up—but the moment I did so, I heard the election speech. When it was over there was one thing which was ringing in my ears—the election promises. The candidate was trying his utmost to make out that he would do this and that. He added that all this was not mere talk, and the voters would realise the validity of his statements immediately he was declared elected.

I promised my vote to every one that approached me for it. I well know that it was the best means of enjoying sumptuous teas that will be given by successful candidates. How can any one know who exactly got my vote when it is a secret ballot? What with a dashing game of Ring Tennis in the evening, and to add to it, witnessing a Chess match, I was thoroughly exhausted. In addition I had listened to the Radio.

All these made me fall sound asleep. Sound? I think I am wrong. A sleep interposed with dreams can never be called sound. Do you deem Eddie Cantor's Sleep in 'Ali Baba goes to Town,' a sound one? I know you don't. Leaving this alone, I should like to narrate to you my dream:

There were three candidates standing for election. One of them withdrew from the contest on the day prior to the elections. The seat contested for was for the Wardenship! Are you taken aback? This is democracy at its best. The Warden for a professional College to be elected by the students from among the students—ultra modern! H. G. Wells in spite of himself has not foreshadowed this in his "Things to come". I am sorry to have withheld the news that I was one of the two remaining candidates. My rival began his speech first and was up for full 60 minutes. The effect was really very great. Every moment the audience was becoming thin and actually when I was to make my speech I had a handful to address. Consequently mine was an easy job. I give my speech below:—

'I am addressing you directly and in a very familiar tone. I promise you to be your guide, poet, artist, philosopher and what not, the moment you elect me. You will exercise your prudence and vote for the really deserving. The following shall be my election

manifesto:—My first reform will be the construction of more bath rooms and latrines. I need not tell you how much we are in need of these, (cheers). Secondly, I will see that you are allowed to go on cycles at least to the wet lands (more cheers). Thirdly, to give an innovation to the monotony of Scientific subjects I will make arrangements to see some literary subjects are introduced. After very great consideration I have come to the conclusion that the introduction of English Music and Indian Dance will greatly amuse you. These are but a few of the good many things that I mean doing during my regime. I thank you gentlemen for your patient hearing and I conclude my speech with an appeal for your votes.'

I had some tense moments before the election results were announced. But when they were, what joy was there at my heart to see my name put against the Wardenship I had won by a margin of 13 votes. Is this number the so called unlucky number of the many, my lucky number!

There was profuse garlanding and profound congratulations. Why, there was a pompous procession round the hostel and round the maidan. I thanked them for having chosen me as their rightful guardian. There were clappings.

Clappings—I am sorry—tappings at my door. Then did I know that my neighbour was knocking at my door to take me to the elections. What a dream. I went in haste and exercised my vote. But to whomsoever I gave it, he did not succeed.

C. S. Krishnamurty, B. Sc. Class III.

The Mystery of the Crimson Trail.

(Boys below 19 are warned against reading this story. Those doing so do it at their own risk. The editor cannot be held responsible for any calamity to the weak hearted on reading this story--Ed.)

It was on the 18th of January 1926 just outside Secunderabad that this incident took place, and it was the greatest adventure I had ever had.

If I am not mistaken, I think I was in the I Form. I was young and innocent those days, though my teachers and my parents thought otherwise.

I had just then entered the stage of reading detective stories and very soon, detective novels became an obsession with me. I would read all such novels I could lay my hands on. Money given to me for buying pencils, rubber and note books by my dad, went towards buying two-penny Sexton Blake series. There were only two places where I could read these peacefully. One was the bath-room, and the other, the Tamil Pandit's class. It soon came to be known that I wasn't actually using a lot of rubber and pencils and note books as all that. But I know that I was still crazy about detective stories because I haven't forgotten the terrific kick I received on my pants for stealing the school bully's novel.

I was a particularly happy lad that month because I was the proud owner of a brand new hockey stick that my father presented me with for X'mas. Besides enabling me to play hockey, it was useful to me as a weapon of defence against my younger brothers and I was happier still about it.

My old man was reading a book on "How to bring up children" in spite of his experience. It said, "encourage your little son to play games. That will keep him away from detective novels". That is why he bought that wonderful hockey stick for me. A pity, I did not know this malicious motive of his.

I think the old man was very clever, because I actually forgot Sexton Blake and played hockey during school hours and other hours, in the kitchen and in the office room.

Being school time, on the 18th January 1926, I did not play in the kitchen, but on a maidan not far away from home and just outside the town limits. This was a lovely, lonely place, a perfect rendezvous for all my friends who were also of similar inclinations. I heard the other day that they are also at present reading that very book which my dad used to read when I was young and innocent—"How to bring up children" by Dr. Hopkins, Consulting Psychologist, California.

Having played hockey almost the whole day without any half time, I was tired by about 5-30 and was returning slowly to be at home before street lighting time, at which time my father reads the muster register for all his children.

I had gone 65 yards or rather 66 yards to be more accurate, when Ismail shouted out "Come and look at this blood here". Sure enough it was blood and sure enough I forgot about that roll call at home at lighting time.

I was a keen scout and a keener amateur detective. The sight of blood immediately fascinated me. All my detective craze was trying to express itself.

Like a true detective I cleared the area and took stock of the circumstantial evidence—a trail of fresh blood between a pair of iron wheel tracks near an unused well.

"Perhaps an unhappy traveller was robbed by a bandit, beaten, put in a cart and dumped into that well. What agony the poor fellow must have undergone" I said to myself. "Perhaps the man's life is still lingering. Why not try to save the unhappy wretch? The scout Association might present me with a medal for it and the police will give me a reward for information leading to the arrest of a notorious criminal for murder".

My friends also were eager to solve the mystery because they were also keen about the medal and the reward.

Strangely enough, the trail did not lead us to the un-used well as we had surmised. So we divided up into two squads, one squad following the blood drops in one direction and the other in the opposite direction.

We were all tired with walking, the light was fading, our hunger ever increasing. We were beginning to despair. The trail at last led us into a big building with zinc sheet roof and a big sign board outside. Over the house a large number of crows and vultures were hovering. "Here lives the murderer" I said to myself. Immediately I wanted to take down the name of the occupant to report to the police. On the board was written "The Corporation Slaughter House". Nearby stood the cart, I was looking for, smeared with blood. I wished that some one would drop bombs on this building. We were an unhappy lot returning home late that night disappointed, disillusioned and tired. My friends and I thought of murdering Ismail for showing us the blood of slaughtered animals.

The next day we went to school to compare notes with the other squad who had gone in the opposite direction. They had the same experience as ourselves, in a different building. But on the board they read "The Corporation Blood Manure Factory". On return that night they too had met their angry fathers and sympathising mothers.

It is fourteen years since this happened. But believe me it has had a very salutary effect on me. I hate scouting now; I never play hockey though I still enjoy watching it, and I hate nothing more than reading detective stories.

G. V. Chellappa, B. Sc., Class III

On Snoring

AFTER pondering for three days I come to the conclusion that after all snorers are the best enjoyers of sleep. 'I snored away the whole day' that is what one says when one means that one had a very enjoyable sleep, on say a holiday. Look at the snorer as he makes that rhythmic gur gur sound, his hands, and legs stretched wide apart, his mouth agape and his plump little belly making what is commonly known as a simple harmonic motion. How careful he looks—his relaxed expression suggesting an exquisite pleasure within and a quiet serenity without. But look at this sleeper, his limbs close together and his eyes held tight giving out the very suggestion of 'Disturb me not or else I will be offended.' Last year, in our Hostel, there was one poor chap Shesha by name whose habit it was to sleep very early. But unfortunately for him he didn't belong to the class of snorers. So his friends argued that he really wasn't asleep and that he was only feigning. No sooner did Shesha sleep than a piece of poetry escaped every mouth, "Early to bed and early to rise makes Shesha a happy, healthy and contended chap." Poor man. If only he had been a snorer!

Snorers, I said, are the best enjoyers of sleep at least for the simple reason that sometimes they happen to rob that very same delight from others. Last summer there turned up in our house a gentleman, who, I want you to understand was to us a guest of no mean importance. Of course he was received with much eagerness and when bed time arrived he said 'Not particular about anything like bedding but just some breeze (moving air) is all I want'. So my room was pitched upon and I was to take the guest. He stretched himself on a little carpet near the window and for half a dozen times or so exclaimed 'How hot it is!' Then he drifted into a long talk, for, snorers, as I know them, are nine out of ten, terrible talkers. He talked and talked and did not mind much whether I was listening or not. I was feeling very drowsy and the last question I remember his asking me or rather himself was, why we cannot consider Mr. Gandhi to be a Muhammadan. He paused here expecting me to enlighten him on this point. But a suitable answer being difficult to be imagined I pretended that I was fast asleep soon after and began to dream terrible dreams. A hundred dogs were snarling at each other and pulling each others' tails. I woke up and to my great relief found that all this snarling was nothing but the snoring of my guest at the top of his breath. He was making a variety of noises—at one time comparable to the snarling of a dog and then suddenly changing to the roaring of an automobile. For sometime I listened with deep interest and then closed my eyes. But I could not get a wink of sleep although I rolled listlessly for three hours and more. I tried myself to fancy

that all this noise was only melodious music and that I was being sung to sleep by a mysterious singer. But my imagination was too poor to swallow anything of this kind. Again I tried to think that I was travelling in a train but with little avail. I blocked my ears with my hands but this only served to amplify the loudness of the noise. The clock struck four. I jumped up from my bed and went out realising that here was an opportunity for me to see the Sun rise.

P. Ananthakrishna Rao, B. Sc., Class I.

Is it a Fact ?

That at Cape Camorin Janab Md. Sulaiman began comparing and contrasting the boisterous seas of the other places with the calm one at the Cape.

That when he was at the height of his oration, that the cat was let out of the bag by Mr. Chettiar giving out the fact that the learned orator, was just seeing the sea for the first time in his life.

That Punja was seen practising some Bharat Natyam poses in his room.

That it later came to be known, that he was not practising any dance poses, but that somebody had just trampled on his wounded foot.

That under the able guidance of Meenakshisundaram, Santhana-Raman reared a millipede for two months taking it for a caterpillar.

That during the debate of the 26th October '39, many students had gone well prepared to make " extempore speeches."

That the President did not give them an opportunity to speak and that one of them was so disappointed as to be murderously inclined the whole day.

That some of the speakers took it into their head that the meeting was a ' Pugilist display ' and that the President was in constant dread of having her spectacles knocked out by one of the speakers.

That the residents of the orphanage (15th Block) have approached the Warden for the provision of a lavatory for the Block and that a bore-hole is likely to be sanctioned and that Mr. S. of class II has been deputed to the boring.

That Mr. Kantiraj mistook Mr. Upadyayalu's hand-writing for a " seismographic record."

That a tour-programme for the II years, has been drawn up and that the chief places included are

Marudamalais--Hill station.

Pujaripalayam--Chola village etc.

That the Club Secretary is intending to subscribe for a special copy of the " HINDU " for R. Shetty so that the other members of the Club may have a chance of seeing the paper.

That the Tennis representative R. Veeraraghavan intends using tennis nets made of coconut fibre as an expression of his insular patriotism.

That Sreshta is going to deliver a lecture on " punctuality " and that G. Raghavalu has kindly consented to preside and that the students have been asked to be in time for the meeting.

That the construction of the new club buildings is going on vigorously unseen by others, with a view to avoid the ' evil eye '.

That Maduram collects film posters as a compensation for not attending any cinema theatres.

That K. S. Suryanarayana fell on a girl while going to cinema on Ramalingam's cycle ?

That C. Sankara Rao sings beautifully when all go to seelp ?

That H. Gurubassapa mistook Nageswara Rao's leg to a cholam plant and cut his leg while harvesting cholam ?

That Jagannadha Rao toilettes only four times a day ?

That K. V. S. Suryanarayana Murthy left playing tennis from the time he was defeated by George Madhuram ?

Editorial Comments.

(By the Tatler Editor)

Saturday Classes.

The introduction of Saturday classes has evoked the greatest concern in student circles. Of course it could not have been otherwise. Saturday, was the best day of the week, both to the Bohemian and the studious among the student community, and this encroachment on the well-earned week-end holiday has robbed both categories of students of their happiest day. We do not mean to say that a student of Agriculture is over-worked, but we dare not say that he gets adequate rest, especially after this new introduction. The Sunday passes off in a trice and we wonder whether the student will ever be able to attend the Monday classes, as much refreshed as he used to be previously.

To the studious man it means the complete negation of the library facilities in the Research Institute. Saturday was the only day when one could hope to go to the Research Library and read one's quota of extra books. View it, as we may, from whatever angle, this innovation completely baffles us as regards its utility. No wonder, the students are not jubilant over the Saturday classes.

The Editor Replies.

- R. Shetty:— Sir,
On the 4th Nov. some of the students of our college were called for an interview by our Principal. Has this interview anything in common with the Viceregal interview?
- Editor:— No. It has absolutely nothing to do with it. The students were called just to consider, how best to meet the impending Dec. exam-crisis.
- Anonymous Class I
I hear that Mr. Ananthakrishna Rao is a very slow eater. How much time does he take to eat his Mid-day meal?
- Editor:— Well, Sir, I can't tell you the exact time he takes. Anyway if you are so inquisitive and have enough patience, you had better go to the Malabar Mess at 11-30 A. M. and observe. But don't forget to bring the following things with you.
1. One-up-to-date calendar 1940 to gauge time.
 2. An easy chair to seat yourself comfortably.
 3. Two or three **Edgar Wallace's** Novels to read during the period.
 4. One kettle of coffee to keep you awake during the travail of waiting.

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- R. V. S.:— Sir,
I would like to know whether Mr. G. V. Chellappa was ever a Post-man?
- Editor:— Do you mean to say that every body that wears a Khaki suit has something to do with the Postal Dept.? Don't ask silly questions.
- T. K. Rao:— Will you kindly let me know the date on which Mr. Sulaiman was elected as class rep.
- Editor:— Was he elected at all?
- Dindigul Wala: Why did Mr. K. S. Ramaswami resign the post of the General Mess Representativeship?
- Editor:— Are you aware of the resignation of Mr. C. R. ? This might be a case of sympathetic resignation.
- E. V. J.:— When I think of the future of the B. Sc. (Ag.)s I become despondent.
- Editor:— There is absolutely no reason for such a despondency. A scheme is already pending with the I. C. A. R. to start a colony of Agricultural graduates in Sahara.
- G. V. C.:— What is the mother-tongue of Mr. Veeraraghavan?
- Editor:— It is a problem that has defied many an expert linguist. When he speaks Malayalam, Malayalees take it for Tamil; Tamilians think it is Malayalam.
- A. R.:— Mr. Reddiar of Class I says that he has read Shakespeare's 'Sherlock Holmes' series. Have you also read it?
- Editor:— I haven't. But, any way, ask Mr. Reddiar whether he has read "Scot's Emulsion" also.
- Gokhale:— Why is Mr. G. V. Chellappa still in the 4th Court?
- Editor:— Because there is no 5th Court.
- Thiagaram:— We are feeling much handicapped by not being allowed to go on bykes to College. Suggest something instead that would not go against the rules.
- Editor:— "The Hindu" has advertised that there are some elephants for sale. Why not you buy one?
- Mahimi Dass:— When is the Hockey field getting ready?
- Editor:— At the rate at which the repairs are going on, it will be ready by August 19th 1959 at 2-30 in the afternoon according to our fastidious mathematician.

Students' Annual Club Day Celebrations.

The Annual Club Day was celebrated on Saturday the 24th of February 1940 with great interest and enthusiasm. It was a day of triumph, merriment and unalloyed happiness to one and all the students. The sports and tournaments connected with it were concluded prior to the Club day. The happy function commenced with 'Tea' at 4 P. M. as usual. The fancy dress competition provided great amusement to the visitors. After 'Tea' the guests and the students adjourned to the tastefully decorated Freeman Hall, where a meeting was held with Sri. N. Chandrashekara Ayyar, B. A., B. L., District and Sessions Judge, Salem in the chair. Student P. Paramananda Panda is to be congratulated for the simple, exquisite and artistic way in which he decorated the hall.

After reading of the reports of literary and games Sections for the year 1939-40, by the respective secretaries, prizes were distributed by the President to successful candidates. This was followed by a variety Entertainment which included the following interesting items, which were greatly appreciated.

1. The opening chorus. (2) The college Rag. (3) Instrumental music. (4) "Examinership conferred" A farce in English. (5) Magic and feats of strength. (6) Indian songs and (7) A scene from S. Kanara field drama.

The pleasant function terminated with the presidential address followed by a vote of thanks by Mr. R. C. Broadfoot, Principal of the College.

The following is the list of prize winners in various events held in connection with the Club day.

Indoor games.

	Winner.	Runner up.
Table Tennis singles.	K. Narayana Rao.	D. Narasimhamurthy.
" " doubles.	R. Veeraraghavan & Satyanadhan.	Sommanna & Narayana Rao.
Carrom Singles.	K. Narayana Rao	Monappa Hegde.
" " doubles.	S. V. Srinivasan & Panda.	K. V. S. N. Murthy & Narayana Rao
Chess.	B. S. Krishnan	A. G. Kesava Reddy.
Draughts.	Noel Sreshta	M. Ramiah.
Blow Ball	Kovlulayyas' team.	

Sports.

Tennikoit singles.	Ramakanta Reddy	Md. Sulaiman.
" " doubles.	Ramakanta Reddy & Sanyasi Rao	B. L. Gunapragasam & Md. Sulaiman.
Volley Ball (6)	Ramiah's team.	
Volley Ball (9)	Veeraraghavan's team.	
Badminton doubles	R. Veeraraghavan & P. Venkateswara Rao.	B. Padmanabha Raju & A. Subba Raju.
" " Fives	R. Veeraraghavan's team.	
Tennis singles.	R. Veeraraghavan	M. R. Mohan Punja.
" " doubles.	R. Veeraraghavan & K. Bhakaram.	Chintamani & Narayana Rao.

Ringing the stump:— 1. Md. Ibrahim 2. Fazlullah Khan.
 3 legged race:— 1. Daniel Sunder Rajan & Satyanadhan. 2. Narasimhamurthy and Hanumantha Rao.
 Bowling at the stumps:— 1. S. V. Srinivasan. 2. G. H. Madhuran.
 Kicking the foot Ball:— 1. George, C. M. 2. Kamalakaran.
 Scooping the hockey Ball:— 1. S. V. Srinivasan, 2. S. N. Ramasubramanian.
 Tailing the elephant:— 1. V. C. Upadhyayulu. 2. Sivasubramanian,
 Musical chair on cycles:— 1. Md. Baig. 2. Noel Sreshta.
 Running back:— Mohan Punja, 2. Keshava Reddy.
 Slow cycle race:— 1. Rama Mohan Rao, 2. Azariah.

Inter tutorial competitions:—

Krishnamurthy Rao Memorial Hockey cup:— Sri. C. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar's Wards.
 Rao Sahib V. Muthuswami Iyer's Foot Ball shield — Sri. C. Narasimha Ayyangar's wards,
 Rao Bahadur C. Tadulingam Mudaliar Cricket Cup-- Sri. C. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar's Wards.
 C. Ramaswami Elocution Cup—Sri. C. N. Narasimha Ayyangar's Wards.

Inter class matches:—

Parnel Cup Class III
 Victory Cup Class II.

Literary competition:—Essay writing:— 1. K. Narayana Rao, 2. Seshavtharam, G. V. Chellapa.

Elocution competition:— 1. Md. Baig. 2. Gurubasapa, 3. C. Upadhyayulu.

Colours were awarded to:— Tennis:—nil. Hocky-Daniel Sundera Raj.

2. Azariah, 3 Mohan Punja. Foot-Ball— 1. Ramakanta Reddy, 2. Gnana-pragasam. Cricket:— 1. K. M. Somanna, 1. Athletics 1. M. R. Mohan Punja, 2. R. Veeraraghavan.

The Parlakimidi Cup:— Awarded to the all round sportsman of the year— R. Veeraraghavan.

Special cup for the best student artist— P. Paramananda Panda.

